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"THE PENSION QUESTION."

READ ARTICLE ON FIFTH PAGE.

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Poetry.

Written for THE BLADE.

YOUTH'S GOLDEN HOUR.

BY W. S. PHILPOTT.

Seize now the opportunity,
As it touches you to-day.
Golden winged and bearing blessings
It will swiftly pass away.
Flying, fleeting moments,
Cooling, quickly going,
Like a river ever onward flowing.

Listen! Listen! Hark the voices,
Ringing from the wondrous past,
Call to you whose heart rejoices,
While life's toil is rushing fast;
O, be in earnest now,
For all these golden hours
Will come but once to touch and bless
your powers.

Look around you! Look around you!
See the fruits of mighty toil,
Beckoning hands from all the ages,
Pointing to the hard won spoil—
Richest fruits of manhood,
Of manhood brave and true—
Give here their glory and their wealth to
you.

Onward! Onward! All their banners
Fling the inspiring word to you.
Heroes in the world's great battles,
Strove with courage ever new.
On the glorious fields
Of freedom, learning, truth.
They bid you give your courage noble proof

There before you! There before you!
See the path of honor rise,
Under bright empyreal skies.
'Tis the pathway of the wise,
And thousand voices call,
Be valiant in the strife
And win, pure wisdom's radiant crown of
life.

"LOVE IS ENOUGH."

(A Tragedy.)

The groom was loving, the bride was fair;
Her eyes met his with a witching air;
She was leader and meek as a maid could be,
And she had no more sense than a babe of
three.

"Youngster, beware!" the old man said,
"We've tried the pass"—but he shook his head.
He shook that head oracularly;
"In marriage, 'Love is enough,'" quoth he.

* * * * * * *

Breakfast at home. How strange and sweet!
But something was wrong with the things to
eat;
Something was queer in coffee and tea—
"Nay, give me a kiss instead," said he.

Dinner at home—but he could not eat,
O rawish potatoes! O klin-dried meat!
"You've left out the taste from the soup,"
moaned he.
"I'll make it all right with a kiss," smiled she.

Supper at home, and he could not eat,
O bread like putty! O mush of wheat
O slimy pickles! O tea of tan!
He rose from the table a starving man.

Alack, what afleth that bridegroom now?
He stamps and roars as he knots his brow.
"Go home to your mother, and say from me
That love is not nearly enough," quoth he.
E. S. TURNER, in Good Housekeeping.

SIX LITTLE ONES.

The Cut Direct.

Her father is a millionaire,
While I a clerk do wait,
Yet at the beach Estelle and I
Had many a tete-a-tete.
In town she in her carriage rides—
I walk; it seems to me
The difference is that I eat silk,
While she—well, she eats me.
—[Albany Journal.

A Query.

Is nature angry when she grants
The fill of plenty's horn
And puts a head on cabbage plants
Or a large-sized ear on corn?
—[Philadelphia Press.

Was Off Her Guard.

I gave my girl an onyx ring,
Which filled her with delight,
She looked upon it wondering,
Her eyes with radiance bright.
"It is a charming gift," she said,
"The gem is well selected,
Not only is it fair to see,
But also onyx-pected."
—[Jewelers' Circular.

Look Stern.

There's onesuncommon bugaboo
That makes us ill at ease;
What will our infant navy do
When there's a spanking breeze?

The House in Order.

"Oh, what are those sounds that my ear-drums
stun
Like the shouts of an Indian horde or
Demoniac yells?" "Why, the speaker, son,
Has just called the house to order."
—[Pittsburg Press.

Especially if Late.

"Better late than never,"
Thought the poor girl of her beau,
As some hours after midnight
She saw him slowly go.
—[Philadelphia Times.

Our Story Teller.

NOT GIVEN, BUT LOANED

I CANNOT understand, my dear Altrura, what could have been Mr. Arleigh's motive for coming out here to find us—several hundred miles from his home and place of business. We certainly never saw or heard of him until he called here two months ago, bringing letters from old friends of ours, and showing very plainly that his object was to become acquainted with you, and secure, if possible, your hand and heart."

"One he has certainly secured," admitted Altrura, blushing, "and is in a fair way to obtain the other."

"But, my dear, have you any idea where or how he heard of us—or of you, perhaps I should say more properly, as I, in common with other prospective mothers-in-law, have no just right to count myself in as an object of special or unusual concern."

"Stop right there!" exclaimed Altrura, throwing an arm around her mother. "You know very well that if Walter had been your own son, long absent from you, and returned at last, he could not have shown a deeper or more earnest interest in your welfare. In everything he has said in regard to our prospective marriage and return to the city where he lives, he has counted you in from the first. But in reply to your question, I have not the remotest suspicion as to the reasons for coming way out here to look us up, as he evidently did, with the interest and care of one determined to find old and long-lost friends. I have tried in a careful and delicate way to learn from him when or where he had seen either of us, or what he had ever known in regard to us. The only answer I have ever been able to elicit that threw the very least light upon the subject, was that he had once seen us both for a few moments, and when or where he would not tell me. He even begged me not to press him for an answer to that question, and on looking up at him I saw large tears standing in his eyes, his whole expression indicating deep feeling."

"The correspondence I had with my old friends in regard to him, at his request," remarked Mrs. Morrison, "has, as you know, been very free and full, giving us the most positive assurance that he is not only an enterprising and successful business man, but a gentleman of irreprochable character—one who could easily have secured a wife without coming all the way out here to find and marry my daughter," she added, smiling. "But he has had some reason for desiring to find you, and we must be contented, I suppose, to wait until he is ready to explain this mystery."

"Well, mother," said Altrura, with another charming and happy blush, "Walter will be here in about ten days now, and our bridal tour, which I have left to his arrangement, will comprise our removal to the home that is now ready to receive us, and which, as I am sure from his description, will be much more like the one we had in days that I can only just remember than the one we have had here since the death of my dear father."

"We have never been really poor," said Mrs. Morrison. "From your father's estate, after his death, I saved a little money, but seeing that it would be necessary for us to live under very greatly changed circumstances, I availed myself of the opportunity to purchase this place, and moved out here, where we have been living very comfortably for the last seven or eight years. Now, strangely enough, you and I are to return to the home of your childhood, and early youth, where I shall again meet my old friends and live among them, and feel a thousand times more at home than it would ever be possible out here in this western city. And all this is brought about in some mysterious way through the agency of one whom we never heard of, and who has been acting under an impulse that it has been impossible for us even to conjecture."

The marriage of Walter Arleigh and Altrura Morrison took place at the appointed time, and was made the occasion of a most delightful, and at the same time, tender and affectionate blending of joy with sad regrets at the prospective parting from a mother and daughter who had endeared themselves to a large circle of acquaintances.

They saw them, however, about to leave under the care and protection of one whom every one who met him was instinctively prompted to treat with respect and esteem, one whose commercial reputation was unblemished.

"Good-bye, dear fellow," was said on all sides, at the farewell reception which preceded the departure of the little party. "You have obtained a good wife, and she an excellent husband."

Having returned to her former home, Mrs. Morrison was soon surrounded by her old friends, all of whom welcomed her back again among them, and congratulated the fair and happy bride upon being brought back by a gentleman whom a considerable number of the young ladies who had long known him there would gladly have prevented from performing that errand.

The past history of her son-in-law soon inevitably became a subject of casual conversation between Mrs. Morrison and her old friends, among whom were some distant relatives.

He had been known to some of those people in early childhood while his parents were living.

He had at the time been a promising, well-educated youth; but when not more than 19 years of age, he had lost both his parents, also an only sister. For several years after his bereavement he had been, in some measure, lost sight of, and it was understood that he had become very poor, nothing whatever having been saved from his father's estate.

These stories, while listened to and pondered over with keen interest and sympathy by Mrs. Morrison, aroused her no nearer to any explanation which piqued her curiosity, although they served, in an indirect way, to revive many half-forgotten memories of by-gone days.

"My dear," she remarked, in a private conversation with her daughter, some six weeks after her marriage, "the more I think about this matter, the more firmly I am convinced that I met, at some time, when we were both young here, and had money that I was accustomed to spare, in little acts of kindness, have rendered some service to Walter which has made a very deep impression on his mind, while I had entirely forgotten it."

"That," said Altrura, thoughtfully, "affords a partial explanation of one of those half-hidden memories that have been floating around in my mind ever since I first met Walter. I could not tell whether he simply looked like some one I had once seen, or whether I had actually met him in early life; but his face always had a familiar look. And as you know, I told you he admitted that he had once seen me and you also."

"Well," said Mrs. Morrison, after a few moments' reflection, "we are so well acquainted with Walter now that I feel at liberty to talk with him in regard to that matter, and with your permission, my dear, I will speak to him alone—although I am sure he will not wish me to conceal anything from you."

To this proposition the young wife very readily agreed, and an opportunity for the desired interview soon occurred.

"Well, my dear Mrs. Morrison," said Walter, in reply to the lady's inquiry, which had been made directly or indirectly so many times, but never answered. "I will tell you the whole story. To you and to others it may seem a matter of slight importance, but to me it was of serious moment and the turning point of my life.

"You are already familiar with my history up to the time of the death of my parents—also of my father subsequent upon the train of calamities that came upon him, and that of my mother and only sister which followed soon after, caused by the grief and distress of his loss and our misfortunes—leaving me at the age of 19 entirely alone.

"Within a few months, however, I began to gather strength and look around to see what I could do. I had no property to fall back upon. There was a little that I might have saved had my mother lived, but after her death creditors came in and took everything.

"I had a good education to start with, but of business I knew nothing at that time—in fact I had never earned a dollar by any direct effort of my own.

"I realized, however, that I would have to carve out my own fortune if I ever made one, and in spite of my ignorance of any kind of practical employment, it seemed to me as if I could certainly rush right in and do something by which I could more than earn a bare living.

"I started out for a western city to see what I could do there, but failed at everything, and returned discouraged and utterly destitute.

"While thinking over what to do I recollected a man whom my father had befriended, and I remembered also having heard that he was cold and ungrateful. I determined, however, to call on him at his place of business, and did so one morning.

"My appearance was extremely shabby, and my health very much impaired. I stated my wants and circumstances to the man, and asked him for a loan of $5. In reply, he threw that amount on the counter before me, and said: 'Here, take it, young man—not as a loan, for you will never be able to repay it—but as a gift, and the next time you beg go to the overseer of the poor.'

"I did not touch the money—I could not have lifted it from the counter. That cruel taunt and sneer stung me to the heart!"

"Shah! oh!" interposed Mrs. Morrison, who had listened thus far with breathless interest.

"I remember it all now. I heard every word of that conversation. But your face was turned away from me at the moment—in fact I scarcely saw it. I instantly, however, made up my mind what I ought to do."

"Yes," said Walter, in a tone fervent with gratitude, while tears started to his fine eyes. "And you did it! As I passed by you, going out of the store in a whirl of lonely little girl; and it seemed to me that the sweetest and most comforting feature of that kind act was the look of genuine delight which irradiated her face and beamed from her soft eyes when she saw you hand me the money. In that instant both your faces were photographed on my memory with a fidelity that no lapse of time or change of surroundings could ever efface.

"I did not know who you were at the moment, but I soon learned, and I took fresh courage from that time. With that $10 in my pocket I found an employment that paid me from the start, and from that time on I was never out of money.

"I was absent, however, from the city on business that proved very successful, and when I returned, able at last to repay that loan in—what seemed to my grateful heart—a fitting manner, I learned that you had left the city, and I was unable to gather any definite information regarding your whereabouts.

"But another purpose had been forming in mind during that absence—and that added zest to my desire and efforts to find you. That sweet young face, so full of sympathy, had been before me continually, and it had become my dearest wish that some day I might ask to have its brightness shed over me for life.

"So I followed up every clue I could discover, and at last, as you know, my search was rewarded. And so, dear madam," he added, as smiling and extending his hands he clasped hers, also outstretched, in an earnest pressure, "you see how I have proved my gratitude, after all. I have repaid that gift by asking and obtaining a greater one."

"But one which has been gladly and cordially given," replied Mrs. Morrison, returning his warm clasp. "And now let me call Altrura in that she may share in the pleasure and surprise of this little mystery, now so happily explained."

In a few moments more the happy young wife was listening with deep interest to a brief sketch of the events already narrated.

At its close she drew nearer her husband and laid her hand on his arm, which, the next instant, was drawn closely around her.

"How glad I am," she said, with earnest simplicity that brought tears to all eyes, "that it was you we were permitted to help, and that you have been the one to bring us home again. I think I must have known you loved me all these years, for from the moment I first saw you it seemed as if you were the one for whom my heart had been waiting. That simple act has brought us royal interest; the debt, if such it were, is more than canceled."

"Only canceled, darling," said her husband, drawing her to a close embrace, "in a way which your generous heart has led you to adopt, by conferring upon me that greater benefit, that richest treasure, which makes me your debtor for life."

"No, Walter," she corrected him, as she nestled closer, "for that favor was not given, but loaned; but the love that brought me to you was not loaned, but given, and"—with an arch smile—"for full value received."—[Family Story Paper.

WITH THE WITS.

The man who has hard work to keep posted—the bookkeeper.—[Atchison Globe.

The only kind of bee whose kiss is agreeable is the husking bee.—[Binghamton Republican.

A "corner" which is not worth a fig: raisin' the currant values to date on dried fruit.—[American Grocer.

Some speakers prefer to talk in the open air. It is the only way they can induce people to hear them out.—[Yonkers Statesman.

In the matrimonial market it doesn't make so much difference about a girl's complexion if her income is only fair.—[Burlington Free Press.

At the club door: "Ta-ta; dine with you Friday night." "But what if it rains Friday?" "Then we will dine Thursday night."—[Life.

"What is posterity doing for us?" "Well, I'll tell you," said Chollie's father. "My posterity is helping me to get rid of the surplus."—[Harper's Bazar.

Guest—Garcon, this napkin is moist. Garcon—Yes, I wept over it this morning when I thought how small your *pour boire* for breakfast was.—[Epoch.

When night is stepping from the scene,
'Tis then that nature, viewing
Her daily task with thoughtful mien,
Says, "I'll be up and dewing."
—[Washington Post.

Not too much: "What dancing eyes she has!" "Yes. It's good the dancing stopped there, too. If she'd had dancing cheeks and a tripping nose and a waltzing lip, she'd have been in hard luck."—[Harper's Bazar.

She took the paper to read it through;
Her manner was strangely solemn;
Her smiles were faint and exceeding few,
As she glanced o'er the funny column.

Long since from her face had the roses fled,
For sorrow was written on it,
And a sigh escaped her when she read
The joke on the Easter bonnet.
—[Washington Post.

HOW SHE WROTE IT.

Then Contrast That With What the Operator Sent.

"I want to send a telegram to my husband," said an excited young woman, who came hurrying into a Western Union telegraph office the other morning.

"Very well," replied the operator in attendance. There are some blanks, and, of course, the briefer it is, the less it will cost to send it."

"Oh, I know that," she replied; and then she wrote:

DEAR GEORGE—I've something too dreadful to tell you, but please don't get excited, for it can't be helped now, and baby and I are perfectly safe. I don't know how it ever happened, and cook says she don't know, and none of us can account for it, but the house caught fire last night and burned to the ground. Just think of it! Did you ever hear of anything so perfectly dreadful in all your life? I'm half wild over it. But please keep calm, dear. Baby and I are safe and most of the things were saved, and you mustn't think of anything but how much worse it might have been. What if baby had been burned! O, George, don't it make you shudder to think of it? But the dear little darling is perfectly safe, and of course we went right straight to mamma's, and you can't think how frightened she was until she knew we were safe. And I know just how shocked you'll be, you poor, dear boy, but as baby and I are safe you oughtn't to mind anything else. I can't imagine how the fire started. Can you? Do you suppose some one set the house on fire? Oh, it's too dreadful to think of. Come right home.

MAMIE.

P. S.—Remember, the baby and I are safe.

"There," she said, as she handed the seven blanks she had written to the operator, "I suppose it might be condensed a little."

"Yes, I think it might," he replied, as he took a fresh blank and wrote:

"Our house burned to the ground last night. All safe. Come home. MAMIE.
—[Time.

THE NEW DICTIONARY.

Professor Lookatem's new dictionary will, it is promised, very soon be out. The following definitions are from advance sheets of the work:

Receiver—The undertaker for business circles.

Politician—One who hates capital, hates England, hates everything necessary—before election.

Statesman—A man who marks the full of the moon and knows when a boom should be planted.

The Great American Novelist—One in hiding.

Reputation—Something to be torn down.

Pavement—Something to be torn up.

Millionaire—The man who might quit work and go fishing, but doesn't.

Laborer—The man who would like to quit work and go fishing, but can't.

Divine—A minister with a salary exceeding $3,000.

Clergyman—A minister with a salary over $2,000 and under $3,000.

Preacher—A minister with a salary under $2,000.

Fisherman—A liar.

Scum—That which rises to the top.

Creme de la Creme—That which rises to the top.

Word—Something to be given—something to be kept.

Egotism—That which makes a pair of twos often win—[Merchant Traveler.

He Confessed.

Minister (to tramp)—Tell me, now, haven't you stolen something recently?

Tramp—Yes, boss, I have.

Minister—Well, promise me now that you will give it back to the owners. What did you steal?

Tramp—A ride on a freight train.—[Munsey's Weekly.

In Stock.

Humorist (in furniture store)—"I wish to get a writing-table."

Furniture Man—"Yes sir. William! Show the gentleman those chestnut writing-desks."—[New York Weekly.

THE TERROR OF THE TUBE.

McValentine Changes His Base of Operations to Brooklyn.

McValentine, the tramp, is still the busiest person in upper New York. He says these big flat houses, with their admirable system of speaking tubes, have been designed expressly to drive dull care away, and he feels it his duty to make the most of the situation.

So he keeps on annoying people who live on the upper floors, and there is no telling where his depredations will end.

He continues to distribute himself over a large area, and we hear of him at times in Brooklyn and Jersey City.

The last complaint comes from Henry street, Brooklyn, where he visited a large apartment house, pulled the bell with his usual vim, and when a woman's voice came down to his listening ear through the speaking-tube he called back:

"The compliments of the season to you, madam. You have selected a beautiful place of residence, and I wish to offer my congratulations. It is a charming spot, and living as you do on the top floor you must have a magnificent view over the city and the bay at its feet. Am I not right?"

The woman was considerably puzzled at this unusual message, but managed to call back to the man:

"We are perfectly satisfied."

"Ah, you should be, you should be," responded the terror. "From your exalted elevation I dare say you have a view of Liberty in her grand act of enlightening the world."

"Yes, we can see the statue," called the woman, who was now very curious to know the outcome of this business.

"Ah, that is fortunate. Now, tell me, please, if it is true, as reported in New Jersey, that every afternoon at 3 o'clock Miss Liberty climbs down from her pedestal, puts on a bathing suit, and takes a plunge in the sea?"

The woman shouted back that the idea was ridiculous.

"Then I infer that she does not do it. I did not believe she did, but strange things happen, and I told my folks I would avail myself of the first opportunity to learn the exact facts in the case. You have my thanks. Now, let me ask you if you endorse the recent attempt of the secretary of the Treasury to make the Statue of Liberty a immigrant barracks?"

After listening at the tube for a moment, he replied:

Quite true, madam; quite true. I am a stranger to you, as you say. I will grant your point that my remarks are irrelevant, and perhaps unnecessary; but I am of a social and chatty nature, and you will admit that in the grand social whirl there is many a word uttered that could have been left unsaid and still the world continue to spin on its axis. Do you grant me that?"

"You can go along about your business," called the woman, angrily.

"Now, don't be haughty, me fine lady, because you live in a big red house," responded McValentine. "You have not even deigned to ask to whom you are indebted for the honor of this visit. I may be Jay Gould, or the President of the English syndicate whose purpose it is to buy this property and convert it into a horse-sale sagacity factory. But happily I am neither. I am president of the United Order of the Sons of Rest, and I wish to say that the reward of $1,000 for the arrest and conviction of the man who first invented work still holds good."

McValentine glued his ear to the tube to catch the effect of this information, and then shouted back:

"Time's all right, me proud beauty; that's all right. I am going, but need I tell you that, like Romeo, I find that parting is such sweet sorrow that I could say good night till 2 p. m. to-morrow."

A frenzied woman appeared at an upper window with a brick, but McValentine was well into the next block and swung rapidly henceward.—[New York World.

JOHN ALLEN'S FIRST LEGAL VICTORY

A Bad Case Made Good by a Profound Opinion From the Classics.

"Private John Allen," of Mississippi, who became the wit of the House of Representatives with the death of Sunset Cox, tells a good story on himself of how he came to be a profound lawyer.

A party of members were telling yarns in the cloak room of the House yesterday, and when Allen's turn came he told this one:

"I want to tell you of the greatest legal victory of my life," said Allen, as he lighted a cigar and propped his feet against the wall in true Southern style. "It was down in Tupelo, during the trying period just after the war. I was at that time a practicing lawyer—that is, I practiced whenever I had any cases to practice with. One day old 'Uncle' Pompey, one of the old negroes of the settlement, came into my office and said:

"'Mars John, I wants you to clar me I'se gwine to be 'rested for steallu' of two hams out'en de cross road store.'

"'Well, Pompey,' I asked, 'did you stea the hams?'

"'Mars John, I just took 'em.'

"'Did any one see you?' I asked.

"'Yar, Boss,' said the old negro disconsolately, 'two ole white buckra's.'

"'Well, Pompey,' I replied, 'I can't do anything for you under the circumstances.'

"'Now, Mars John,' said old Pompey, 'here's $10. I don't want you to try.'

"'Well, I consented to try," said Allen. "The case was to be heard before an old magistrate named Johnson. He was totally uneducated, and was moreover a perfect dictator, and no negro ever came before him who was not fined the maximum penalty and sent to his field to expiate the crime in the sweat of his brow."

"The magistrate heard the case. Every possible proof was brought to show that Pompey stole the hams. There could be no doubt of it from the testimony. I did not put a single question to any of the witnesses, but when the testimony was all in I arose, and in my most dignified manner addressed the magistrate:

"'May it please your honor, it would be useless for me to argue the position he holds, and before one who would adorn the Superior if not the Supreme bench of this grand old commonwealth. And I may say that those who know you best say that you would adorn the Supreme Court of the United States, the highest tribunal in the land. It will be useless to dwell upon the testimony. You have heard it, and know the case as well as I do. However, it may not be out of order for me to call your honor's attention to a short passage in the old English law, which clearly decides this case, and which, for the moment, your honor may have forgotten.'

"Then I fished down into my pocket and drew forth, with a great flourish, an old copy of 'Julius Cæsar.' I opened it with great dignity to the first page and read the line which is familiar to every schoolboy, *'Omnia Gallia in partes tres divisa est.'* That decides the case, said I, throwing the book upon the table. That clearly acquits the defendant.'

"With great dignity and solemnity I then took my seat. The old magistrate was completely nonplussed. He looked at me a moment quizzically and scratched his head. Then, turning to Pompey, he raised himself to his full height and said;

"'Pompey, I know you stole them hams, but by the ingenuity of your lawyer I've got to let you go. Git out,' said he, as he planted his No. 9 in the seat of Pompey's pants, 'and if you ever come here again, lawyer or no lawyer, you git six months.'"—[Atlanta Constitution.

Discovered the Truth About Him.

Brown—You don't mean to say you've quit trading with Cutaway? Why, I thought you'd swear by Cutaway.

Robinson—I've got through with him. I owed him a little bill, and he sent around last week to say that he was in urgent need of funds and would consider it a great favor if I would help him out.

Brown—And you found it inconvenient?

Robinson—No, it was quite convenient; but, Lord, I thought the man was rich.—[Puck.

Health Assured.

Physician—"I fear you have been keeping yourself too closely confined. You should go out more. Take a constitutional every morning before breakfast."

Colonel Livehigh—"I always do, doctor, two of 'em, and never less than three ingers."—[New York Weekly.

Our Serial Story.

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A TEMPERANCE STORY.

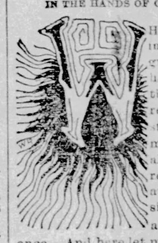
BY

Thomas W. Knox

AUTHOR OF "OVERLAND THROUGH ASIA," "THE YOUNG NIMRODS," "THE BOY TRAVELERS" (IN TEN VOLUMES), "CAMP-FIRE AND COTTON FIELD," "UNDER GROUND," "DECISIVE BATTLES SINCE WATERLOO," "JOHN," "HOW TO TRAVEL," "MARCO POLO FOR BOYS AND GIRLS," ETC.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

IN THE HANDS OF GREEK BRIGANDS.



WHEN you are looking into the muzzle of a gun that is cocked and has a Greek bandit at the other end, the barrel seems as large as a tovepipe or a watermain, and you can almost see the ball resting on the powder at the bottom. Resistance was useless and we submitted at once. And here let me say that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred there is no chance of successful resistance to bandits in any part of the world, provided they understand their business, and they generally do. We often hear men telling what they would do if attacked by robbers or if a burglar should enter their houses; by their boasting of the wonderful deeds they would perform if they only had the chance, they reflect upon the courage of those who have actually been in peril, which has never been the case with the boasters. The chances are a thousand to one that they would do just like other people and surrender at discretion, and there is also a very fair chance that they would manifest a very pronounced cowardice. No man can tell what he can or will do in an emergency until the trial comes, and he who vapors of his own courage when it has never been tested is pretty certain to be a coward.

"We got down from our horses and then the bandits came out from the bushes and surrounded us, all the time keeping their guns leveled at our heads. One who appeared, and afterwards proved, to be the leader, stepped forward and searched us for weapons while his ten or twelve companions stood on the watch to make sure that we did not get away. Had we tried to run it is probable that the whole lot of their guns would have been emptied upon us instantly. Most of the guns were old, flint-lock affairs, that would not amount to much in a regular battle, but they were well adapted to brigandage where a dozen men were pitted against two.

"Perhaps you are wondering what became of our guide. He stood by and awaited the result of our capture and the brigands gave him very little attention. The guide occupies a neutral position; he is never harmed by the brigands unless he shows fight, which he has the good sense not to do. They would make short work of him if he did, and his business would be brought to a very decided end by the closing of the grave above him. Highwaymen the world over do not harm the driver of the stage coach that they plunder, as long as the man behaves himself, and in a good many instances the driver or guide may be in collusion with the robbers. I do not think this was the case with our guide, as the man had been well recommended to us by one of the bankers at Athens, and nothing in his actions caused us to distrust him in the least.

"We had no weapons of any kind unless our pocket-knives could be considered in that category; evidently they were so regarded as they were taken from us; and so was a pair of scissors that I had in a leather case to prevent injury to my clothing. The fellows spoke nothing but Greek and as we were ignorant of that language our guide was required to act as interpreter. We were put on our word of honor not to try to escape, and on this condition our hands and feet were left free. Had we declined to give our parole, our hands would have been tied behind us and we would each have been walked between two brigands holding the ends of the rope fastened to us while another brigand walked behind with a loaded gun. Then at night we would have been bound both hand and foot which would have been both inconvenient and humiliating.

"Soon as the personal search was completed and our parole given, we were hurried off into the bushes and away from the road. We traveled at a rapid walk, each of us being guarded by two men, and as soon as darkness came on, our guards kept a hand resting on each of our shoulders, lest we should violate our promise and run away. We must have walked about three hours before reaching the scene of the brigands, which was on the side of a mountain, and so well concealed that no one could discover it until he was actually among the little shelters that the robbers had built to shield them from the night air and the rain. On our complaining of hunger our captors gave us some crusts of bread and a few raw onions and turnips that had been taken from a field on the way. One of the shelters was assigned to us; it was made of a few poles and bushes thrown together, and reminded me of the rude substitutes for dwellings that I once saw among the aborigonals of Australia.

"You may be sure we didn't sleep much that night, our minds being occupied with the very unpleasant features of our situation. That the fellows would hold us for ransom was certain, and we knew the figure they would demand was far more than we could by any possibility pay. They had not come to business as yet, but a hint had been thrown out that it would be discussed in the morning.

"Everybody was stirring by daylight and breakfast was served a good deal earlier than at the hotel in Athens. It was a simple affair; some dry crusts and onions and a few morsels of meat that had been left over from the previous day when, as we learned from the guide, the band had dined upon a goat which was caught somewhere in the hills. For beverage we had water from a brook near by; the guide said that the bandits rarely drank anything but water, and it was the rule of the captain that any one who became intoxicated should leave them at once. The method of leaving was such that the retiring bandit would not be likely to reveal the whereabouts of his companions; he was put to death in the presence of his comrades, one of them being detailed by lot to fire the fatal shot. I never heard of a more effectual prohibition law than this, but do not recommend it for adoption in civilized countries.

"After breakfast, in which the robbers treated us with respect and shared their food with us on terms of perfect equality, we sat down for a business conference. It was conducted by the leader, who was said to be the redoubtable Capt. Lagos, the guide and ourselves, all others being out of earshot save the two guards who stood near us with their loaded guns.

"The captain asserted that we were English lords or persons of the highest distinction and must pay a ransom of half a million drachmas, which is equivalent to $100,000 of your money. We laughed at the idea, both of the high distinction, and the amount of the ransom, and appealed to our guide to tell what he knew of us. Unfortunately this wasn't much and the captain was not convinced, or at all events he would not abate anything of his demand. He told us we must utterly refuse, and unless he did so, and dismissed the idea of our being lords or anything of the kind he might as well shoot us at once. He grew very angry, or pretended to do so, and summoned his followers, as he said, to kill us.

"I told the guide to tell him that we wished an hour for writing letters to our friends, to explain our disappearance and say that at the end of an hour we would be ready for the shooting.

"We had some writing paper in the bags which the robbers had taken from our saddles at the time of the capture and carefully examined in search of money. Each of us got a sheet of this paper and sat down to write. You may wonder why we took things so coolly under the circumstances; the fact that we knew from all previous history of the Greek banditti that they only kill their prisoners when pursued, or to prevent information going out as to their whereabouts. A dead man is of no use to them and they do not indulge in murder for murder's sake. They are sure of some sort of prize for a man as long as he lives, though they make their terms high at the start, they will come down to something that is possible rather than put a man out of the way and thereby increase the vigor of the efforts that the government is constantly making to suppress this unpleasant industry.

"We finished our letters and then told the chief we were ready to be shot. 'Make a good of it,' said I, 'and finish us at the first fire.' Release the guide as soon as you choose and send him back to Athens with the letters and you will then learn what very ordinary men we are.'

"This seemed to convince the scoundrel that the lord business was out of the question as he called another conference in which he speedily reduced his terms one-half. Then we proposed that the whole matter should be postponed until he could send to Athens by the guide and ascertain through his friends in the city exactly who we were and what was our ability to pay. It was not a question for us to give any such ransom as you ask,' I said, 'and as you will not believe what we say on the subject I want you to find out for yourselves.'

"The brigands have friends in all the cities, and not infrequently the fellows venture there themselves on business or for pleasure, and are not interfered with. The law imposes a heavy penalty on all persons who have dealings with the brigands, but this by no means interferes with them. Some of their friends are persons of prominence in society; when the Italian government was vigorously pursuing the brigands it found that there were a baron, two doctors, two priests, three officials equivalent to justices of the peace, and a dozen or more of well-to-do citizens in collusion with them in one city alone!

"Our proposal seemed to strike Captain Lagos favorably, and he at once set about carrying it into effect. He wrote a letter to somebody, but of course he didn't tell us who that somebody was; he would not allow us to write any letters, but said the guide might be at liberty to say we had been captured by brigands, but must not reveal our place of concealment. 'Even should he do so,' the captain continued, 'it would be of no account, as we shall move from this place within two hours.'

"One of the brigands was detailed to go to Athens, but he was not selected in our presence nor in that of the guide, and probably it was one that none of us had seen. Two hours after he had gone the guide was permitted to leave on foot, and was cautioned not to reach Athens before evening. He was also told, so he informed us, that if he revealed anything that would lead to annoyance of the bandits in the pursuit of their industry his life would not be worth a drachma the next time he fell into their hands.

"Sure enough the spot where we were encamped was abandoned by the brigands towards evening. We traveled as nearly as I could judge about ten miles before stopping, and then slept on the ground as best we could without any shelter. The next day we threw up some shelters like those we had abandoned, and when my friend and myself offered to help in the work and showed how the shelters could be considerably improved with very little trouble, we seemed to fairly capture the heart of the chief. I am satisfied that our willingness to work and our knowledge of practical things went very far towards convincing him that we spoke the truth when declaring that we were not English lords or other high dignitaries. He propounded it in this way: 'A lord would disdain to labor with his hands as these men do, and as for the practical things of life he knows no more about them than a cow does about managing a steam engine. The average lord or baron doesn't know enough to go indoors when it rains, and these fellows seem to understand themselves and the ways of the world in general. Therefore they can't be the big men I hoped they were.'

"We stayed for three days where we were, and for most of the time the majority of the band were absent, probably on the lookout for other prizes. Night and day we were guarded, and our movements were restricted to an area of a few square yards. Our food was scanty and coarse, but as it was the same on which the robbers lived, we had no reason to complain, especially as complaints would not have mended matters in the least. We were in a bushy hollow, and could not see a hundred feet in any direction. We could make out the points of compass by the stars at night, but as to our distance from Athens or the proper way to reach it, we had no idea.

"Capt. Lagos was absent for the whole of the second and third day, and for aught we knew went to Athens to conduct business in person and find out our standing by calling at our bankers. On the evening of the third day he reappeared and with him came a strange bandit who could speak Italian fairly well and thus act as interpreter. The four of us sat down to a conference based upon the report as to our ability to pay the ransom he had demanded at the time of our capture. This is the substance of what he said:

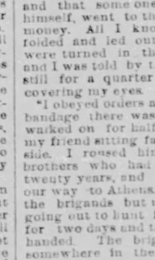
"'I have heard from Athens and find that you told the truth when you denied that you were English lords or rich men. I have changed my mind and will release you for 50,000 drachmas (ten thousand dollars.)'

"We told him this was too much and then he said something about business being dull and his men all having families to support, and declared that he could not think of less than 40,000 drachmas. We said that this amount was just as impossible for us as the highest one he had named at first, and after a great deal of haggling we got down to an agreement as follows:

"We, the prisoners, were to draw lots as to who should go to Athens and leave the other behind. The one who went was to bring 10,000 drachmas ($2,000) in gold or silver to a place in the road about six miles from Athens; the designated place could be seen from a considerable distance in every direction and thus any treachery could be guarded against. He should put the money in a hole by the roadside and then retire a few hundred yards and if all was right his companion would shortly join him and they could go back to Athens without further molestation."

CHAPTER XL.

A RUSSIAN WOLF HUNT.



WE took two sticks and drew lots, the one getting the longest being the favored individual who would obtain his liberty. Unless the money was forthcoming within three days, the ransom would be doubled, and in another week the prisoner might expect to be shot, if payment were not made.

"I drew the short stick, and so was compelled to stay. My friend bade me farewell very sadly; there was no doubt about his ability raise the money, but the question naturally rose as to the good faith of the brigands. They had been known to double the ransom and hold on to their prisoners after getting the stipulated amount, and might do so in the present case. Then, too, the authorities would be sure to hear of our capture and send a military force in pursuit; this would exasperate the robbers, and if attacked and closely pushed, they would be likely to kill their prisoner rather than let him be rescued. All things considered there was considerable uncertainty about our meeting again, but we put on the best face possible, and tried to hope that everything would come all right.

"The night after he went away we again changed our hiding place, but all our movements were made during the hours of darkness so that I still had no idea where we were. As before, most of the brigands went away but I was constantly under guard. My friend afterwards told me that before he had gone twenty yards after saying good bye to me he was blindfolded and in this way walked three or four miles, as nearly as he could judge, before the bandage was removed from his eyes. He found himself on the road to Athens and not more than ten miles from it.

"He walked to the city as fast as he could; he had started from camp before daybreak and it was not yet noon when he reached the city. In less than an hour he had procured the money from our bankers by hypothecating our letters of credit and making drafts on London for a part of the needed ransom; then he went straight to the hotel and to bed, where he slept until two o'clock in the morning with scarcely a break.

"Then he rose and dressed, and with a package containing a cold chicken and other things for which he knew I would have a good relish, and with the money in a small bag he had obtained at the bankers', he started back on the road he had traversed the day before. He reached the designated spot, deposited the bag in a hole by the wayside and then retired and sat down as had been stipulated, first looking around to see that he had not been followed from Athens.

"Exactly what was done afterwards neither of us knows, but the probability is that my friend was watched from the side of the mountain overlooking the road and that some one, probably the captain himself, went to the road and secured the money. All I know is that I was blindfolded and led out to the road; my steps were turned in the direction of Athens and I was told by the interpreter to stand still for a quarter of an hour before uncovering my eyes.

"I obeyed orders and when I tore off the bandage there was nobody in sight. I walked on for half a mile and then saw my friend sitting fast asleep by the roadside. I roused him; we embraced like brothers who had been separated for twenty years, and then made the best of our way to Athens. We saw no signs of the brigands but met a party of soldiers going out to hunt for them; they hunted for two days and then came back empty handed. The brigands were concealed somewhere in the mountains but their hiding place was not then discovered.

"Some time afterwards the government troops found a party of brigands and engaged in a fight, in which several were killed on both sides and seven of the bandits were captured. Five of the prisoners were beheaded and their heads were stuck on poles at one of the gateways of Athens as a warning to evil-doers. A friend sent me the photographs of these heads, and I had the pleasure of recognizing two of my captors among them."

The occasion of the capture of the brigands, which was mentioned by the gentleman, was a matter of much interest at the time. Lord and Lady Muncaster and a party of English travellers were seized at Oropos, near Marathon. Lord Muncaster and the ladies were liberated and sent to negotiate while the rest were held. Twenty-five thousand pounds ($125,000) were demanded as ransom, together with a free pardon for all the bandits. The government refused to allow the negotiations, and sent troops to surround and capture the robbers if possible. The movements of the troops

OUT ON THE PLAINS.

HEROINES OF THE FRONTIER.

Mrs. Custer Tells of the Trials and Hardships Endured by Them—The Pioneer Mother and How Her Powers of Endurance Are Tested.

[Written for THE BLADE by Elizabeth Bacon Custer. Copyright, 1890.]

PHILANTHROPISTS, temperance crusaders, women's rights defenders, professional women, trained nurses, all who are foremost in upholding a principle, the splendid mothers of our nation also have had, from Martha Washington down, some eloquent voice to praise them, some glowing pen to chronicle their successes; but there remains a class of women who have been but little sung in song, or who neither had any one to tell their story in public, nor would they speak themselves of what share they had in making complete this great country of ours.

Fortunately the pioneers here and there have not been allowed to sink into oblivion without a historian, but mostly beguiles of a life of such romance or startling adventure or marvellous escapes that the men-of-letters found them admirable heroes for poetry or for fiction. How seldom though was it that, behind the ox-team that the Western settler drove, there was not the brave face of a woman looking out from the semicircle of canvas that gathered the wagon cover together in front! Perhaps she gazed on to a distant home nearer the sunset over a little brood of bowheads. Perhaps a young face appeared without the setting of children's faces. Do you suppose the brave adventurer did not gain courage from the eyes of his wife as he turned back to speak an occasional word? Could those men have pushed forward so valiantly, have vanquished each day a horde of enemies in the guise of heat, drought, poor and innutritious food, unsatisfactory water, alkali dust, beating storms, and, worse than all, the ever-present terror of the redman, had not the wagon held the faithful friend and wife, who left everything in the way of home, comfort, recreation, social life, to push on into the wilderness to make a new hearthstone for the man she loved?

The days of pioneering were too full to admit of any one writing their history. The Americans, who are such a nation of letter-writers, could not take time, or any of the hours for necessary rest, to send back a narrative for each eventful day. Besides, the mail carried by the overland coach was a slow medium for news, and indeed this mode of communication with the outside world was often stopped by Indian difficulties. Consequently there are but meagre records of domestic life in a wagon, the adventures by the way, the final settling in the new home. How full of interest a minute account of such a journey would be to the children at present, from whose atlases the "great American desert" is now eliminated!

I do not find any women in history who embody to me the very quintessence of courage like the resolute plainswomen. The Jan of Ares, the Molly Pitchers were examples surely of courage that poet, painter, and historian have honored, but they were inspired by a great courage, by a tremendous sense of right, by love for their cause. They were fanatics in their way. The name fanatic is not one that any one likes, but I hardly think many of the great reforms of the world could have been effected without fanaticism. It needed the absorbing enthusiasm of their cause to make such heroines forget everything save the work they felt they were chosen to do. Many martyrs have been supported on earth with the belief, and the conviction in heaven convinced that they were "chosen" from on high to work and to die for a cause.

Our plainswomen were not so inspired. They had oftimes no choice in their lives. The liege lord said, "We go West," and the wise wife knew usually that it was best not to demur, but to enter into the scheme at once. She was, of course, ignorant of all the trials that she was to meet. The successful man who returned from the border dwelt on the rewards he was then reaping rather than on the difficulties that obstructed the way to success. But from the first announcement of the intention the woman's self-denial was taxed. She need not even look forward to deprivations on the way or at the end of the journey, for before she started there came necessity for the utmost courage, as she must forfeit so much that a woman holds dear.

Her church and its sabbath school for her children; the dear association of the townspeople, who had been with her at the marriages, births, deaths in each family; the excellent school, where she hoped to give her children all the fortune she could ever expect to give them—a thorough education; her physician, dear to her as her pastor, in sad or dangerous hours of her life. Perhaps aged parents clung to her with the knowledge they would not see her again. She must face a life for years, at least, without schools, churches, social village communion, physicians, public library, the old fertile gardens and fruit trees and the peace and protection of a comfortable home.

As travellers climb the stairs of the National capitol, many feet are arrested before the great picture toward the West the Star of Empire takes its Course." The detail of that huge canvas will rescue from oblivion the heroic struggles of our plainsman. It is a peaceful scene, but could the artist for a moment veil the landscape in a thick, murky atmosphere of penetrating dust, or, removing that, replace it by hail and introduce the sharpest lightning ever known; or transpose the sunshiny day into a silence, when the sun scorches the skin and parches the throat, or even picture the downpour of the clouds, when week after week the traveller journeys through the "wet season," the story the canvas tells would be truer to the reality.

People would be made to know that when the splendor of a Western sun in spring, and the soft cool air of a plains evening in early summer disappears, the real life of the pioneer begins.

If women lived through those terrible days and kept brave hearts, nothing on earth could daunt them. Imagine one of them at night, after the bivouac was made beside a stream, or at the dry bed of what had been one, where they had to dig for water, trying to get shelter under the rain descended, though they were in a partially sheltered spot among the sparse timber, and it was an effort to kindle a fire with the wet sticks. Possibly her frugal habits have taught her to garner a few dry bullets from the previous camp. The fire at last begins to burn, and, fighting wind, dust, rain, she cooks the simplest fare for her little family. They huddle in the wagon for the night, but the mother must stop to put on a button or hastily draw together a rent, no matter how the candle sputters in the dim lantern, nor how crowded and cramped she is, sitting at one end of the wagon. The pioneer mother had no reserve clothing with which to dress the sturdy, active little bodies next day. The necessary stitches had to be taken. Thus cooking, washing, mending, helping with the stock and making camp, she made her heroic path across the trackless waste that stretched on to the Rocky Mountains. The worst of it all, there was little or no childhood for the children after they had so soon to be given the care of the younger brothers and sisters, to assist in making fires, driving the team, carrying water, that the faces of little shavers I have seen looked careworn at 10, while maternal solicitude and anxiety gazed out of the eyes of a little girl whose slender arms held the baby of the settlers.

Not long ago I had what was to me a most fascinating description of a life that was intensely interesting to me; a gentleman was playing cowboy, and after innumerable vicissitudes he came upon the stone hut of a sheep ranch on a New Mexican plain. A 10-year-old boy was left in charge. He writes: "Life a marvel now without numbers become in this precocious country. Navajo boys care for a whole sheep herd month after month when only six years of age." He goes on to say of the white boy who had charge of the ranch: "And my youthful, Philadelphio, is at present the sole executive of this ranch, Acebache—cook, vaquero, and general utility man. He warmed us up after our freezing ride with a very passable dinner, cared for our horses and acquitted himself manfully all around. Next day Philadelphio and I were out all day, rounding up a big herd of cattle and driving them in." The mothers of these prematurely old children feel the deprivation to their little ones of joyous childhood that comes but once, but there is, in the great struggle for existence that the people of the border live, no other course than to set every available human being at work.

All these trials counted as nothing to the uncomplaining mothers if they were but spared an attack from the redman. For how many years though, those slow oxen dragged the settler on to a frightful doom! How many brave hearts ceased to beat on that hotly-contested region between the Missouri river and the Rockies! In the city of Denver, which now lies in the midst of the irrigated plain smiling and prosperous, there are tongues, if they could speak, that would make clear how scorched and blistered with suffering was the road which led to the now flourishing city. When I first went there, over twenty years ago, the block-houses in which the citizens had defended themselves from Indians were standing, the townspeople still kept their fire arms in readiness, as they had for years, for the invasion of the red man. The town was small, but comfortable homes had begun to appear, and from these came women to gaze with joy upon the first cars that had entered the place. They had come into the village years before behind an ox-team and helped to build the cabin that was their new home. Alas! there were others who could not come to see what was to them a rare sight. Wrecked in body and some in mind, they were hooked for the remainder of their days, paying the penalty of overstrained nerves. The Indian, in attacking the ox-train, if he failed to carry away booty, had taken, alas! the greatest possession of all, the health and sometimes the reason of the cowering woman hidden within the wagon.

There were warriors among them, quiet and modest, but still ready to lead and fire if—if, while the men of the party deployed themselves as skirmishers and walked on either side of the wagons that the women drove. The most timid woman was nerved to action by the sight of her husband in peril and the danger that threatened the little family hidden in the wagon-bed. When women stood the test of such hardships, perils, deprivations, as was the lot of every one who crossed the plains before the building of the railroads, what homes they must have made for their husbands! What peace and comfort must have sat down on the hearth to remain forever! It would be difficult to move a woman to show temper, or to provoke her to murmuring, or to induce an hour's gloom with any of the ordinary trials of a peaceful life, if she had come off victorious under the test of an overland journey. And when I sometimes see a plainswoman come for an "outing" in the States a good deal bedecked and shining with jewels, I do not blame the frontier husband for his desire to hang a few trophies of his success on the "old woman," whom he courageously tells me "drur" the ox-team while I fit logs on our way to the Rockies." An hour's talk with such people brings me to the very core of patience, fidelity, and courage.

WISHING.

"I wish I had an eagle's sight,"
Said Johnnie, with a radiant look,
As all sat round the evening light,
Each occupied with work or book—
"Then on far Eiffel tower I'd stand
And view the wonders on each hand."
* * * * * * *
"Pshaw! Eyes and wings!" sneered sturdy Dan—
"I'd choose, if I'm choice could make,
A lion's strength." "And I," said Nan,
"The lily's breath and beauty take."
Then sweet-toothed Nell piped, "For my part
Give me, from bees, the honey art."

Wishing ran wild. We all were gay.
Mother sat smiling, weary faced;
Small time had she for books or play,
So many stitches must be placed;
Old pussy stretched, lazy and fat,
Close at her feet upon the mat.

"Mother," called Dan, "'Tis your turn now!
What would you take, had you the chance?"
She pushed her glasses up her brow
And gave the matter serious glance—
"Well, if I could, and 'twas no crime,
I'd take," she said, "the cat's spare time."
—[Laura Garland Carr in Boston Transcript.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Latest Issues of Books to Reach The Blade Reviewer.

Harper Brothers, Franklin Square, New York, have issued "Tour in Africa," in the French West Indies," by Lafcadio Hearn—a charming volume.

De Wolf, Fisher & Co., Boston, send us Rev. W. H. H. Murray's interesting little volume, "Lake Champlain and Its Shores."

D. Appleton & Co., New York, have just issued the following paper-covered novels in their excellent "Town and Country Series:" "Djornbek the Georgian," a tale of modern Turkey, from the German of A. G. Von Suttner; and "The Dean's Daughter," by Sophia F. F. Veitch.

Cassell & Co., New York, publish "The People I've Smiled With," by Marshall P. Wilder, the entertainer.

J. S. Ogilvie, New York, sends "The Adventures of a Skeleton," by Beecher W. Wallace, a tale of the Findlay, O., natural gas field.

Sanfred & Co., New York, send us "On the Inside," a novel, by Florence Finch-Kelly.

Frank F. Lovell & Co., 142 North street, New York, send the following paper-covered novels: "In Her Earliest Youth," by Yasma; "Misadventure," by W. E. Norris; "An Awakening," by Miss Forsyth; "The Little Chatelaine," by the Earl of Dysart.

LINKS OF LOVE.

The love-sick maiden is almost always too small for her size.—[Binghamton Leader.

The punctilious Genoa maiden manifests that in her every rural sport who will exactly suit her.—[Geneva Junction Gazette.

Love may be blind, but all the same, it does not prevent the lover from distinguishing his adored twenty blocks away.—[Lawrence American.

"Another mine disaster," remarked young Shipley when he was told that his girl was in love with another fellow.—[Kearney Enterprise.

An Honorable Calling.

In all ages, the profession of medicine has been held in honor. Each of the other learned professions is more or less dependent upon this one. The lawyer must be versed in Medical Jurisprudence, and the clergyman must know "to minister to a mind diseased." And just now the writers of fiction seem to be encroaching upon the doctors' "preserves." With slight alterations or additions, for example, a few illustrations, many a modern novel might be made to do service as a medical work. However, doctors' lives are not all sunshine. They must check many disappointments. The search for the elusive dollar, though, ever equally, equally fascinating, is often not more successful than that for the North Pole. Science has enabled them to determine just where it is, out, alas, they can not reach it. Then they must fight to defend upon the charity of editors and publishers for advertising, their "ethics" not allowing them to pay for it. And worst of all, the chronic cases, battling and settling at meager hour skill. This is sad for the doctors, but let us not waste our sympathy upon them, let us rather point out a way of escape to the patients given over by them. Let them send for a free pamphlet on Oxygen Treatment of Drs. STARKEY & PALEN, by which inhaled, it is absorbed into the blood, and distributed over the whole body, imparting new strength and vigor, and assisting nature. Over one thousand physicians are using it in their practice. You will find testimonials from these, as well as from great numbers of patients, besides, a full account of Compound Oxygen, in our Treatise of 200 pages, a carefully written work, the result of years of study and experience. Sent free. Address DRS. STARKEY & PALEN, 1529 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa., or 120 Sutter St., San Francisco, Cal.

The Complete Outfit.

Family Lawyer—I understand that you are a suitor for the hand of the daughter of my millionaire client?

Titled Foreigner—Yes, monsieur, in part.

Family Lawyer—In part? Explain yourself.

Titled Foreigner (with a shrug)—Well, mousieur, to be frank wiz you, I shall expect ze pocketbook zat goes wiz za hand.—[Chicago Times.

A Rage for the Sweet Pea.

What the violet has been to the fashionable world this winter and spring the sweet pea is to be during the later spring days and the summer. So say the wise persons who know—the florists and milliners. In the shops of the milliners great masses of these dainty pink and purple and white clusters are already to be found, looking nothing in fidelity to nature but the exquisite perfume, and in a few weeks we shall have whiffs of this also from the great jars of blooms in the florists' windows and on the wayside stands.—[New York Sun.

St. JACOBS OIL
CURES PERMANENTLY
BURNS AND SCALDS.

Two Cures—One Battle.

Middle Amana, Ia., Aug. 15, 1888.
I burned my leg with scalding water and had sprained ankle at same time; promptly cured both with one bottle of St. Jacobs Oil.
JOHN HEINEMANN.

One Application Cured.

Pilot Grove, Mo., Aug. 18, 1888.
I burned my arm severely in 1884, which was cured promptly by one application of St. Jacobs Oil. MRS. NANCY ARMSTRONG.

AT DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS.

THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO., Baltimore, Md.

THE DIVIDED SKIRT.

IS IT AN EVOLUTION OR NOT?

A Bright Writer Compares It to the Bloomer, the Trousers of the Turkish Woman and the Dress of the Chinese Woman.

[Written for THE BLADE by Florence Finch Kelly. Copyright, 1890.]

SLOWLY but surely the divided skirt question is setting womankind against itself—bifurcating feminine opinion as distinctly as the skirt itself is divided. The views pro and con are as emphatic as feminine views are apt to be, on whatever subject, and the question gets argued between believers and unbelievers, wearers and non-wearers, an increasing number of times every day.

For, undoubtedly, the divided skirt is gaining ground and has won already a large army to its wearing and defense. It has been only three years since it sprang, full gathered, trimmed and divided, from the brain of the lady for whom it has achieved distinction, into the talk of women and the news columns, headlines and paragraphs of the newspapers.

THE DIVIDED SKIRT.

Three years ago nobody had even thought of a divided skirt. One woman, more inventive than practical, had sewed her petticoat together, back and front, and had tried to wear it in that shape. But the attempt to make Simeon's clothes suit of her propelling members had not proved entirely successful and comfortable, and she had gone back to the orthodox form in petticoats gladly and gratefully.

Now patterns by the hundred are sent out by the firm of the lady to whom all the talk about it is due, and the same firm carries a large stock of the made goods in all materials from red flannel to soft, luxe trimmed silk. Several dry goods houses keep it always on hand. One of them spends a good deal of money advertising that they keep it. It no longer attracts curious crowds when it is displayed in the store windows.

The fact that several actresses, among them Rosina Vokes, wear the article, made from dainty and costly materials, has given it additional prestige, and more recently the mighty Felix himself, from the queen city of fashion, has sent out a model of a divided skirt that is one beautiful and bewildering mass of lace and frills and silk—a thing that Minerva herself would be willing to sell her owl and her crown to get. So that the divided skirt is now a Parisian fashion. The Irish jaunting dress has become well established to the article that she no longer asks, as she did at first, "Do yez gin'rally have it counted two or wan?" The woman who wears one is no longer an object of curiosity to her feminine friends, for a goodly number of those friends have probably donned it themselves.

But the divided skirt has not gone unchallenged in its career as a conqueror. It still has enemies to rail at it, enemies who sneer at it, enemies who ridicule it. Every woman who wears it hears such expressions as these whenever the subject comes up for discussion among her women friends: "How perfectly hideous!" "The very idea of wearing such a thing is disgusting!" "Really, it's shameful!" But if one may judge from the apparent amount of demand for the skirt, it is gradually making its way into the ranks of standard articles of feminine apparel.

Is the divided skirt an evolution of the bloomers of 40 years ago? Did the idea come from China or Turky? Or did it "just grow?" Or was it simply "born tired?" There are those who say it is descended, in direct line, from the bloomer costume. If so, it does great and much needed credit to its foremother. It would be difficult to imagine a costume more ungainly and ungraceful than the bloomer—unless it were the distended hoop-skirts, pinched waists and bedraggled finish against which the bloomer was a protest. But the divided skirt, when made of pretty materials, is a very dainty and a very witching garment and certainly has beauty and grace in its favor, whatever else may be said of it. But when it isn't made of pretty materials—well, it is then fit company for the bloomer. But it is so different, in form and intention, from the bloomer that it cannot be claimed as an evolution from that brave but unbeautiful style of dress.

It is even less akin to the trousers of the Turkish woman. They are her outward and distinctive raiment. The bloomer was their next of kin, and ashamed of the connection, which it sought to hide with the skirt of compromise. In form the divided skirt is more like the Chinese woman's trousers than it is like any other piece of feminine apparel, barbarous or civilized. But even here the resemblance is very remote. Celestial trousers are long and flapping and ugly, and take the place of the civilized woman's dress. The divided skirt is shorter, makes no display of itself, confines itself to its original purpose of supplanting the underskirt, and makes no overt attacks upon the outside dress. Therein lies the difference between the American divided skirt and the feminine trousers of the Chinese or any other nation. It is simply a shy little underskirt that wouldn't attempt to be anything else for the world, and which wishes to be kept well covered by a gown of orthodox length.

The truth is, the divided skirt is like no other article of raiment known to the feminine half of the world. It is a product of the bifurcating tendency of evolution—that tendency which split chopsticks into two tined forks, divided single pronged hair skewers into two pronged hairpins, changed the togs of the Romans into the modern trousers, and, perhaps—who can say?—gave mankind two legs instead of one.

That same bifurcating tendency has been at work upon woman's apparel this many a day. Time was, and not so very long ago, when each article of her raiment would have answered fairly well to the Turkish woman's description of Lady Montague's dress—trousers with one leg. And now there is left, at least among the large section of women who have not adopted the divided skirt and its concomitants, but one single article, the outside gown, that is safe from the attacks of division and still keeps its circling, enveloping form and purpose.

And there is a rumor that even this, in the specific form of riding habit, is about to be attacked by the bifurcating impulse.

"Do tell me," I said to a woman who sings the praises of her divided skirt at every opportunity, "what there is about that garment which makes every woman who wears one so anxious to convert every other woman to the faith?"

"Oh, it is such a dainty, pretty garment and fits around the waist and over the hips so tightly, and brings out so beautifully every pretty curve, and falls in such soft, graceful lines, and is altogether so fetching that I stand before my glass and admire it every time I reach that stage of dressing or undressing."

"All that depends entirely on whether or not one thinks the garment pretty, and I know of plenty of people who do not. Tell me what its practical advantage is."

"Well, it never gets wet, or soiled, or bedraggled from the street, no matter how hard it rains or how long you are out. It is so light that you hardly know that you have anything of the kind on, and so leaves the necessary weight of the clothing and makes backaches less frequent. You can have better command of all your muscles and handle yourself better and be more graceful. You can walk more easily and dance more gracefully, and do everything that you want to do with more ease and pleasure—except cross your knees, and if you attempt to do that with a divided skirt on you'll wish you hadn't. And nobody who wasn't initiated would ever guess that you weren't dressed underneath your gown just like other women. And that's why I like my divided skirt, and shall never, never wear any other kind."

DIAMONDS IN HER TEETH.

How the Story of a New Kind of Filling Got Abroad.

About two years ago an article appeared in a jewelers' magazine stating that a certain New York belle had hired a dentist to set a diamond filling in a sound tooth in order to add a seeming luster to her already dazzling teeth. Many other newspapers took the matter up, and for a while "diamonds in the teeth" was a subject of much consideration.

The truth of the matter has just come to light. It appears that half a dozen members of a prominent dental association had congregated in their New York club house, and were discussing methods, means and ways of filling teeth. One of the men present was something of a goslin in his profession, and one of the older men decided to give him a sage stuffing. As matters went on and discussions arose and dropped, the elder man remarked, with a sly wink to his companions, that he had received an extraordinary order the previous day. In fact, he had filled a beautiful woman's front teeth with small diamonds.

Of course his companions expressed the greatest surprise at this new proceeding in dentistry, and the goslin in question seemed much impressed with this novel idea.

Shortly afterward the company broke up, but another question had been asked and answered, so the matter was forgotten long before they left the club. A few days later the perpetrator of the joke was surprised to see an article in one of the newspapers relative to the new fad young women were adopting, that was "having tiny diamonds set in their front teeth whether the teeth were perfect or imperfect."

This was the origin of the "fake", and in a short while the new fad was talked of all over the United States. The truth has at last leaked out, and it is now known that no such thing ever existed. The goslin discussed the subject with a friend, who in turn repeated it to a reporter. The latter wrote an article on the subject, and then every one else discussed the matter and believed it. So much for the credulity of the world.

HIS LIFE FOR HERS.

A Lover Wins His Wife by Giving Her the Blood in His Veins.

When the day express of the Missouri Pacific arrived at the Union depot last Wednesday night, says the Kansas City *Star*, a tall man was lifted from the Pullman car and carried across Union avenue to the office of Dr. Chappell. Near Missouri City he had fallen into nervous spasms and had remained nearly unconscious the remainder of the journey to this city. Dr. Chappell soon brought him to consciousness and yesterday morning he was able to continue his journey to California. He was accompanied by his wife, a beautiful woman.

The man was Frederick Ayres, a lumber merchant of Racine, Wis. Over four years ago he became infatuated with the lady who is now his wife, but she preferred some one else. He made way for her more favored suitor. A few days after her engagement she became ill and grew worse rapidly. It was finally decided that the only thing that could save her was the transfusion of blood. Her favored suitor was awful sorry, but he thought he needed all the blood he had in his system. Ayres offered himself, and the operation was performed successfully and with successful results. The engagement was broken and six months afterward Ayres married the woman.

Shortly after their marriage Ayers began to grow ill and his health has completely broken down. The physicians are mystified by his condition and can ascribe no cause for it. It is a peculiar fact that his ailing began soon after the transfusion. He began to emaciate and grow weak. Ayers himself ascribes it to the transfusion of the blood. Ayres has been for many weeks in St. Louis undergoing treatment, and on the advice of his physician is now on his way to California.

A CURIOUS MEXICAN CUSTOM.

The Novel Way in Which the Senorita Expresses her Preference for a Companion.

Mexicans have some curious customs with which it might be just as well for strangers who travel in the republic to be conversant. The *Export and Finance* says that at a dance, for instance, the cascaron plays an important part, and it is frequently a source of much amusement. The cascaron is a highly-colored egg-shell filled with some perfumed sweet smelling perfume, secret powder, or bits of fine gilt paper. When a bewitching senorita, with raven hair and roguish eyes, desires to show her preference for a gentleman, and invite him to dance with her, she playfully smashes the cascaron over his head. Not long ago one of our bright young New Yorkers was in the city of Mexico and a Mexican friend invited him to one of the balls in that city. While he was quietly sitting in one corner of the room a vivacious damsel danced forward to him and smashed the cascaron in the way described. It was filled with bits of gilt paper, and they fell in a shower over his shoulders. He jumped to his feet and rushing to his friend demanded that an ax had been broken over his head. Matters were readily and laughingly explained to him, and in five minutes he was waltzing with the damsel and muttering inward imprecations because he could not talk Spanish.

DRAMA AND DINNER.

Has Decadence Begun in the Paris Theater?

The fashionable dinner hour is having a pernicious effect on dramatic art in Paris, and the theatrical future looks rough and rocky from an artistic point of view. Evidently decadence has begun in the very heart of the drama, says the Boston *Herald*. In this country we are yet too eager for novelties to give the theaters a cold shoulder by staying away entirely, and it will be a long while before we reach the state now agitating discussion in Paris. Paris theaters as theaters are simply abominable traps. There is next to no ventilation in any of them, the prices are high, unless one has seats under the chandelier, and patrons are at the mercy of a pack of barridans, who thrust footstools under their feet and seize their wraps—in short, they are treated shamefully, with many volunble threats that are sufficient to scare the uninitiated spectator out of all enjoyment of the performance. When the piece is one "tout Paris" approves, it is almost impossible to get a seat, but fortunately for some of us in these latter days this rarely happens, and the many theaters in the famous capital are only filled on certain nights. Even Sarcey, the veteran French critic, says the outlook is far from brilliant, and that he fears, unless some means are used to regain the prestige of the drama, the Frenchman's great and only love is bound to fade away and die an unnatural death.

Love for Keeps.

Ted—Why don't you take that girl of yours out to see something?

Fred—Because she wants me to buy her everything she sees.

The Camp Fire.

[Contributions from the old soldiers are earnestly solicited by the editor of the CAMP FIRE. No matter if you cannot write a lengthy history of your lives, for we much prefer short, lively sketches, personal and historical. All communications will be attended to, and no contributor will be overlooked. We do not want anything from the records, as we are supplied with a full set.]

IN A BEAR TRAP.

A Remarkable Predicament in Which a Forager Found Himself.

IT WAS one night during the late war that a soldier, seemingly intent on taking care of himself, might have been seen to alight from a horse near a country dwelling, and not far distant from a corn crib. The soldier crept along with as much caution as an expert midnight burglar, until he came to the door of the corn crib. It had no lock, but the hinges, which needed oiling, creaked complainingly. The night was moonlight, the coast was clear, and in the crib he crawled. A pile of corn lay in the rear end of the crib. Near the center lay a sheepskin. The would-be thief crept over it.

Suddenly something happened. What was it? Had the roof fallen in, or was it an earthquake? It was neither. But the astonished man was surprised to find his leg in the vise-like grip of a huge steel bear trap. It was a cunningly contrived plan. The trap was concealed under the sheep skin, and luckily that prevented the strong jaws of the trap from injuring him so severely. Suddenly the door of the farm house opened and a man came forth. The farmer approached the crib. He saw a man within and knew that the trap had "got in its work," as the thief did not retreat.

"Oh, yes; that is all right, my man. You can compose yourself and remain there till morning," said the farmer. "No, I won't," said the rogue, as he drew forth a Remmington pistol and pointed it at the citizen, the polished barrel glittering in the moonlight, "and if you don't go and get help to release me from this trap I will shoot a hole through you that will let in the moonlight." The captor was nonplused, astounded. It was a curious predicament. The farmer had a thief, the thief had the drop on the farmer, and the puzzling question was, How were they to get rid of each other? Finally the farmer concluded to call Sallie, his wife, and he and Sallie, assisted by the captive, succeeded, after much effort and awkwardness, in opening the jaws of the trap. When the farmer found that the prisoner was a soldier, he offered him corn to feed his horse; but the soldier declined, seeing the farmer's supply was well nigh exhausted. The soldier, however, after that night's experience, was ever on the alert for concealed traps.—H. GREELEY MILLER.

AFTER BUSHWHACKERS

That Had Disturbed a Prayermeeting by Firing a Volley Into the Church.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—August 1, 1864, my company was stationed at Cartersville, Ga., guarding the railroad. Word come in that bushwhackers were operating about sixty-five miles east of that place; that during a prayermeeting they had surrounded the house, fired into the church and killed fourteen union citizens. They had also killed a number of other union people in the community. The bushwhackers were known to some of the inhabitants, and their whereabouts located. Lieut. Harper called for volunteers to go out and arrest the bushwhackers, and Corporal E. Thompson, William Lee, Titus and myself, all of the same company, volunteered. Our guides were two liverymen of Cartersville. We started about 8 o'clock a. m., mounted on horseback, well armed and dressed in rebel uniform. We arrived in the locality of the bushwhackers at 11 o'clock that night. The bushwhackers were in a log house, in which there were two doors, one window and a stick-and-mud chimney. The outlaws had port-holes out in the walls of the building and a roaring fire burning in the fire-place. Hence we could see the light streaming through every crack and crevice, the night being very dark. We crawled up to the house on hands and knees, and looking through the port-holes, we could see seven of the inmates laying around the fire on the floor asleep. We stuck our muskets through the port-holes, and about that time our two guides jumped against the doors, broke them open, and demanded the surrender of the bushwhackers. They answered with a volley and our guides fell dead. We fired on them immediately with muskets and revolvers, killing four outright. The other three were badly wounded, two of them laying on the floor, unable to rise. The third one undertook to escape. I called to him to halt, but he struck right out in the darkness, and I followed him. I overtook him 200 yards from the house, and as he jumped the fence, I finished him with my bayonet. Returning to the house, I found our two guides lay there dead. Two of the occupants were still living, but one died shortly after, and the other next day. We also found two women in the house—an old lady and a girl about 16. They guided us to a spring, where we procured some water for the wounded men. We remained till morning, when we started for camp, arriving safely.—C. W., 29th Ind. Vol.

SIX-FEET-TWO

In His Stockings, Was Comrade Jo Craig—He Shot the Heifer.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—Comrade Jo Craig belonged to Co. F, 44th Ind., and a better hearted fellow never shouldered a musket or stole a chicken. Jo was six-feet-two in his stockings, and so was I. We were comrades, Jo and I, and marched side by side. One day down in Alabama, when the regiment was lying in camp, a gun "went off." Joe said it was an accident (?) and Joe wouldn't lie.

On looking around to see if any harm had been done by his carelessness, Jo saw that the ball had hit a yearling heifer in the head, so he called to Walt Palmer and Fred Ginter, who were with us, to go and see what could be done for the heifer. Walt was something of a doctor in his way, and he thought the animal ought to be bled, and he operated on her throat; but she died in spite of him! Then Jo said we had better skin her and make use of her, and so we did. There was a patrol guard out picking up fellows that disobeyed orders about killing animals, and Joe, thinking they might conclude he had killed the heifer on purpose, said we had better hide the meat under our clothes, and we did. We had a creek to cross and I was just looking for a place to get through the brush to get on a black ash log that was handy, when I heard Joe call "S-h-h-h." I looked, and there, on the other end of the same log, was the captain of the 10th Ind. Co. K. He had done me a great favor over at Shiloh, and I wanted to repay him if I could, and I thought I could. He recognized me, and asked me for the patrol. "Yes, yes," said I, "in a minute;" and I asked Joe for his jack-knife. "Never mind," said Joe. "I can get to him better than you." But we both went up there together, and each of us handed him a chunk of meat—four or five pounds apiece. "All right," said the captain. "All right," said Joe. "All right," said I.—E. R. C., Co. F, 44th Ind. V. I.

DOWN IN A CELLAR

Were Found Apples and Vegetables Galore—Frightened Away the Farmer.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—While down near Charleston, W. Va., Comrade George Willis and I concluded to have some apples. We started about dark, and at 9 o'clock arrived at a farm-house, three miles from camp. George was always in for having fun. He belonged to a scouting party and was noted for his bravery. We crossed the field back of the house, and just as we came within 100 yards we had to climb a steep bank. George was first to reach the top. Thence it was only a few steps to the cellar. We entered, and found it to be an extraordinary large room, filled with vegetables of all kinds. We were provided with buckets, and we soon had them filled with apples; we also found some cabbage. More buckets were found in the cellar, which we filled with good things. We were just emerging from the cellar when the farmer came to intercept us with a shotgun. For a light we had used a rag saturated with kerosene, which we had lighted and dropped on the floor. When the farmer made his appearance I exclaimed to the light by stepping on it. We were in darkness, but we could see the farmer standing in the doorway. George exclaimed, "Jack, you shoot first and if you miss him I'll shoot!" The words had the desired effect, for the farmer turned and jumped over the bank, and we heard his footsteps as he went down the valley. We soon arrived at camp and were in bed at 11:30. Next day we had a feast of good things.—JACK, Co. F, 5th W. Va. V. I.

SHORT LETTERS.

HIS MEMORY GOOD.—I remember the comrades, Sergt. Fred Otto, Simon K. Ellis and W. J. Donaldson, of the 10th Ky. Cav., and have not forgotten the dark Saturday night on which the hog was killed, nor the comrade who crept under the rear of the commissary tent and helped himself to a haversack full of sugar.—TIM JOHNSON, Co. G, 10th Ky. Cav.

AWAKE, Co. A!—Does any comrade of Co. A remember the raid made on that whisky cellar near Lawrenceburg, when the liquor was carried into camp in buckets? How anxious most every one was to trade whisky for water for the next few days! How much better it would have been for us all if we had filled our canteens with water instead of whisky before leaving camp. Jack, have you forgotten about changing your position in the ranks after the captain had passed you is-uing brandy, so as to get a double ration of the same?—J. W. POWERS, Co. A, 10th Ky. Cav.

IN ALL THE BATTLES.—Only two comrades of the 4th Mo. S. M. have as yet written to the Camp Fire. I was with them at the Horse creek fight of which they spoke. I participated in every battle in which the 4th Mo. was engaged—Turkey creek, Newtonia, Fayetteville, Springfield, Jefferson City and Blue river. I joined the army at St. Joseph in 1862, had was mustered out at St. Louis, on the day that President Lincoln was assassinated. What has become of the little fellow who became separated from the command between Kansas City and Independence?—J. N., Co. G, 4th M. S. M.

TOOK KNOXVILLE.—I should like to know whether Burnsides ever got any credit for taking Knoxville, Tenn. The summer the blockade was raised at Chattanooga the general marched to Cumberland Gap, left a force there and crossed Gallico mountain. There we pulled up the supply trains with ropes. It was supposed that mountain could only be crossed at the Gap. Burnsides then moved his army down in front of London, on the Tennessee river, soon afterwards occupied Knoxville, and then sent a force out to the Gap and captured 4,000 prisoners.—G. W. G., 4th A. C.

STONE'S RIVER.—I wish to correct Comrade Stitt, Co. I, 78th Pa., who states that the 2d Brig., 3d Div. Cumberland was engaged in deadly conflict at Stone's river, January 1, 1863. I was through all the battle, as a member of the 3d Brig., 3d Div., 4th A. C., and our brigade was thrown across Stone's river early in the morning, January 2, remaining on the skirmish line until the middle of the afternoon, when the ball opened in earnest. The rebs came down on us in such numbers that we fell back to the river. Then our artillery opened on them, re-inforcements arrived, and we cleaned out the Johnnies in good shape. There had been some cannonading and skirmishing going on the day previous.—MACK, Co. E, 79th Ind. V. I.

PEACH TREE CREEK.—In THE BLADE, March 13, "it. S.," 129th Ills., 1st Brig., 3d Div., 20th A. C., asks in regard to Peach Tree creek battle, what part of the army were first to be attacked. He says, the 4th Brig., 2d Div., 20th A. C. I think it was the 1st Brig., 2d Div. (Geary's). Why do I know? I was detailed early in the day as skirmisher and was on the skirmish line when the fight began—was, in fact, outflanked by the Johnnies who, it seems, found a gap in the skirmish line. As I was in the 1st Brig., 2d Div., 20th A. C., and got the chip knocked off my shoulder before the main fight began, I claim the honor of—well, getting to the rear from that skirmish line at a 2:40 gait.—C. M. DUSTON, 29th O. V. I.

WASN'T BUILT THAT WAY.—From the style of the writers for the Camp Fire, I conclude that they are not "built" as I am, or else they have not suffered as I have. There were four out of our family in the army at one time. Two were killed, one crippled for life, and one came back safe. At the close of the war he made what he necessary, the feeling that rises in my heart, if it is brotherly love at all, it is very highly diluted—wonderfully thin! I don't want to think about it; I don't want to write about it; I would rather forget than keep those scenes alive. I would rather cultivate a feeling that would render such things forever impossible. I like JIM LANE, but I do wish that the "no longer" boys would soon get tired of writing about the war.—JOHN H. RIPLEY.

A GOOD RECORD.—I enlisted at the first call for troops with Co. I, 17th Ills. Vols. My first battle was at Fredrickstown, Mo., and afterwards at Forts Henry and Donelson. At the battle of Shiloh I was badly wounded and discharged; but, after recovering, I re-enlisted in the 91st Ind. V. I., and fought through Sherman's campaign until, at Kenesaw mountain, June 15, 1863, I was captured and thrown into Andersonville prison. Thence (after five months' imprisonment) I was taken to Charleston, and shortly after to Florence, S. C. Seventeen comrades and myself, on December 14, escaped from prison by tunneling, and after enduring the hardships that escaped prisoners usually do, we reached the federal lines at London, Tenn., February 17.—SERGEANT CHARLES SUMNER.

THEY WERE CUT-THROATS.—Referring to the account written by D. H. Murphy, which was run and published by a lady of Sarcoxy, Mo., I desire to say that the occurrence was an atrocious affair, and the perpetrator should have suffered just punishment; but I wish to inform the writers that the wretch was not a confederate soldier any more than he was a Yankee. He was a fiend of the deepest dye, who took advantage of war times to settle an old grudge in that barbarous manner. The country along the border between the North and South was thickly infested with cut-throats that availed themselves of the opportunities made possible by the war, to plunder and murder. "Union Soldier" recently described the work of this class of skunks.—CONFEDERATE SOLDIER.

FROM THE SUCKEN STATE.—I noticed a letter written by Comrade C. Martin, Co. C, 46th O., entitled "From the Land of the Jones's." He asks about the boys of the 15th Corps, and the 40th and 103d Ills., 6th Iowa, 46th Ohio, and he should have added the

Question Bureau.

Rules.—1.—Do not send more than three queries at one time. All questions, to receive attention, must be on separate sheets from business letters or articles for other departments, written on one side of the paper only, and the true name and address must be given. If requested, the name and address will not be published.

2.—Do not ask us where you can sell anything, or where you can buy anything. Such requests are advertisements, and must be paid for.

3.—No addresses will be given, either of business firms or of persons, in reply to inquiries. To do so would be to advertise free of charge.

4.—Do not ask whether any business, company or individual is reliable. We will not reply.

5.—This department is intended to answer only such queries as are of *general* interest to the masses of the BLADE'S readers; hence we will not waste space in answering questions that are not.

6.—We can not give space to mathematical problems, puzzles, etc., nor will we decide bets.

7.—No replies by mail, under any circumstances.

The Visigoths—Abelard and Heloise.

B. Ben., Shoustown, Pa.: 1.—The Goths were a powerful people, and to describe the first mention of them being about the time of Alexander the Great. Tacitus refers to them; and, early in the 3d century A. D., they were settled about the mouths of the Danube, on the Black Sea. About A. D. 269 they began to be distinguished into Ostrogoths and Visigoths (East and West Goths). Under the Roman Emperor Valens, the Visigoths asked his protection against the Huns, and in 376 some 200,000 were allowed by him to pass into Mœsia. Numbers of them took service in the Roman army, but disputes soon arose, the Visigoths rebelled, and in battle near Adrianople, A. D. 378, Valens lost his life.

2.—Peter Abelard, the theologian, and the boldest thinker of the 12th century, was born near Nantes, France, 1079, and died in the abbey of St. Marcel, 1142. He is chiefly noted for his controversy with St. Bernard—the latter claiming that we must believe in order to understand; Abelard maintained that we must understand in order to believe. In his younger days, Abelard was the tutor of Heloise, niece of Canon Fulbert, and they fell in love with each other, and after the birth of a son, they were privately married. Fulbert and his sympathizers, in revenge, castrated Abelard. The latter retired to the convent of St. Denis; Heloise took the veil, and afterward became abbess. Though they never met but once after the outrage on Abelard, they corresponded for years, and their love has passed into history as an example of undying affection.

Pension Questions.

——, Guard, Ill.: My father was a soldier, and served three years in the war. If I should take up a claim, would I be allowed three years from the regular time? 2.—Is the government land in Washington of any value, or will it ever be of much value?

1.—I still own a minor, yes. 2.—Yes.

H. T., Co. H, 15th Ohio: A careful observation in this section of the country shows that the mortality among ex-soldiers is not any larger than among those of equal age who were not in the army.

S. H. W., Gravity, Iowa: 1.—Does an increase of pension date from first application in a case where it has been rejected once or twice, and then allowed? 2.—Don't you think that by the strong opposition by the Democrats to pension legislation, that our congressmen are intimidated from the passage of some one of the many pension bills which has been suggested? 3.—Which bill, if any, do you think we may expect to pass during this session of congress?

1.—From the date of last examination, unless then pension bureau has erred and reconsiders the former rejection, which is often done. 2.—No. 3.—Our prediction as to pension legislation was given in the article, "The Pension Question," sixth paper, in last week's issue.

J. B. R., Eagle Lake, Minn.: 1.—THE BLADE would like to have every honorably discharged soldier receive a pension. 2.—See answer above.

Tariff Facts.

G. A. S., West Fork, Tenn.: 1.—It is generally assumed that the buyer of any article which is shipped from the place of growth or manufacture to a distant point pays the freight. 2.—See "Low Tariffs in Our History," 4th page BLADE of Jan. 16, 1890. 3.—Quinine was put on the free list in 1872, we think, by a Republican Congress. All the reductions in the tariff since 1860 have been made by the Republicans.

C. W. R., Cosmos, Minn.: For the year ending Dec. 31, 1889, the total value of "articles of voluntary use, luxuries, etc.," imported into the United States, were as follows:

Free of duty	$ 3,857,548
Dutiable	91,212,263
Total	$95,069,811

This does not include cigars, tobacco, wines, brandies, etc.

H. E. W., Cincinnati, O.: No one ever seriously questioned the constitutionality of a protective tariff except Jeff Davis, in a magazine article, shortly before he died. What any one believed on the matter rested the matter by refusing to pay duty, and taking the case to the Supreme court of the United States. The fact that we had protective duties at different times for just a century gives a proof that their constitutionality has never been admitted even by their enemies, for all that time.

Unanswered Questions.

The following questions either come under Rules 3 or 5 above, or are requests for information which we have not time to answer:

E. R. S., Almont, Mich.: A. B., Hooversburg, Ind.; T. E. R., Linkville, Ore.; Mrs. R. G. C., Rockdale, N. Y.; C. A. S., Horton, Mich.; J. W. W., Springfield, Ill.; F. E. S., Ankeny, O.; J. G. B., Harlem, Wis.; D. C., Cass City, Mich.; M. M. O., Shipshewana, Ind.; "Soldier's wife," Geidley, Ill.; E. H., North Loup, Neb.; W. F. T., Stanton, Mich.; Subscriber, Crothersville, Ind.; J. D., Tipton, Iowa (your letter has been answered previously); R. F. P., Grand Rapids, O.; F. E. H., Bernice, Mont.; J. O. R., Seattle, Wash.; M. N. G., Potter, Kan.; O. T. L., Frankfort, Ind.; W. W. M., Linton, Iowa; W. O. F., Unionville, Mo.

The following queries are on debatable points of politics, and the answers thereto would be opinions, not facts—hence we must decline to handle them:

A. E., Beatrice, S. D.; ——, North Platte; S. R. O., Vincennes, Ind.; Student, Hillsdale, Mich.

The following questions have been answered in the bureau since January last, and we can not take space to repeat:

S. M., Mongon, Ill.; E. Z. S., Craig, Mo.; J. N. Y., Columbiana, O.; J. F., New Providence, Iowa; J. W. R., Manhattan, Kan.

Old Coins, Etc.

Several inquirers: Not all old coins are worth any premium. Foreign coins, as a rule, are not inquired for by collectors in this country. Collectors endeavor to obtain full sets of each kind of American coins, and it is only those that are scarce that will demand a premium. There are such dealers in old coins in the large cities, and they only want those which are in good condition, with the letters and figures perfectly plain.

B. H., Hamilton, Mo.: Your Turkish 500-piaster piece and Alexandrian patoka are worth the value of the gold and silver in them. "Current value" means the value at which they will pass as money.

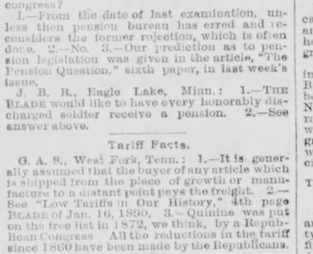
J. B. A.: There is no premium on the half cent of 1804, nor on the cent of 1855.

——, New Philadelphia, O.: 1.—The silver dollar of 1859 has no premium, nor has the half dollar of 1832. 2.—A framed diploma might hang in an office, but it is bad taste to hang it in a parlor.

Westminster Abbey.

E. Z. S., Craig, Mo.: Westminster Abbey, London, is 530 ft. long by 220 wide. The first church on its site was erected in the 6th century; by Sebert; rebuilt by Edward the Confessor; again by Henry III about 1220; with extensive additions or restorations under Edward

SYRUP of FIGS



ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and $1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

SPRING

SPRING HUMORS, whether itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, crusted, pimply or blotchy, whether of the skin, scalp, or blood, with loss of hair, whether simple, scrofulous, or hereditary, from infancy to age, are NOW speedily, permanently, and economically cured by that greatest of all known humor cures, the

Cuticura Resolvent

A skin and blood purifier of incomparable purity and curative power. An acknowledged specific of world-wide celebrity. Entirely vegetable, safe, innocent, and palatable. Effects daily more great cures of skin, scalp, and blood humors than all other skin and blood remedies before the public. Sale greater than the combined sales of all other blood and skin remedies. Sold everywhere. Price, $1. POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CORPORATION, Boston.

Send for "How to Cure Spring Humors."

HUMORS

II, Edward III, Richard III, Henry VII, and George I and II.

2.—Under no circumstances is it considered proper for a young lady to tell a young man she loves him, unless he asks her.

Stanley's Book—To Obtain Books.

H. D., Oakland, Ore.; J. A. B., Eva, Idaho: Stanley's book will be called "Darkest Africa," and be published in England and this country. All other books claiming to be an account of Stanley's *latest* travels, are frauds. It is not yet out. If the publishers wish it advertised by us, they must insert an advertisement. We can not do it free in this column. This is the last time we shall answer this question.

J. S. K., Neale, Pa., and G. H., South Milford, Ind., G. S. and others: It is absolutely useless to ask us where you can buy any book. Get a bookseller to see if he can not obtain it. Read Rules 2 and 3 and don't ask us questions that violate them.

The Young Pretender.

J. B. A., Birmingham, Mich.: Charles Edward Stewart, the "Young Pretender," was the son of the elder Pretender and his wife, Clementine Sobieski, and born at Rome in 1720. In 1745 he made the attempt to regain the throne of his fathers, landing on the Scotch coast. The Highlanders rose in his support, and by the time he reached Edinburgh he had so large an army that the city surrendered without resistance. He proclaimed his father king, and himself regent. After considerable desultory fighting, a decisive battle was fought at Culloden, April 16, 1746; Charles was defeated, and fled the country. He married the daughter of Gustavus Adolphus in 1772, and died at Rome in 1788. Scott's novel, "Waverley," has a graphic account of the rebellion of 1745.

Public Documents—Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.

Reader, St. Albans, Vt.: 1.—The reports you can get from your representative are the annual reports of every cabinet officer, of every head of a bureau, the reports of various Congressional committees, etc.

2.—Rev. Charles Hadden Spurgeon was born in 1834. In 1852 he had charge of a small Baptist congregation at the village of Waterbeach. In 1854 he entered the pastorate of New Park street church, London, and his fame rapidly increased. In 1861 the Tabernacle was built, to accommodate his immense congregation. His sermons have been published weekly since 1854, and have an enormous circulation.

The Mariner's Compass—Harrison's Ancestry.

M. L., Hankinson, N. D.: 1.—The Chinese are believed to have first discovered the polarity of the needle, and to have utilized it in finding direction. It was alleged by Gilbert in 1600 that Marco Polo brought this knowledge from China to Europe about 1295; but there is evidence of its use in France about 1150, in Spain about the same period, and in Norway before 1266.

2.—Benjamin Harrison, 23d president of the United States, is the grandson of William Henry Harrison, ninth president, who was the third and youngest son of Benjamin Harrison, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

A "Pocket Veto."

J. B. A., Birmingham, Mich., and E. C. K., Santa Claus, Ind.: The President of the United States has the right to veto acts of Congress. The Constitution (Art. I, Sec. 1) requires him to sign each bill or return it, with his objections, within ten days, Sundays excepted. If the President fails to return a bill within ten days (Sundays excepted) it becomes a law without his signing it, unless "Congress, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law." The first President to fail to either sign or return a bill passed within the last ten days of a Congressional session was Jackson, and the Whigs applied the term "pocket veto" to his action.

Base Ball.

B. Ben., Shoustown, Pa.: The National League, as now composed, is made up of ball clubs from New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Cleveland, Chicago and Cincinnati. Washington and Indianapolis were members at the start of the year, but were bought out. The Brotherhood League is composed of clubs from New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Pittsburg, Cleveland, Buffalo and Chicago. The American Association is composed of clubs from Toledo, St. Louis, Louisville, Columbus, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Syracuse and Rochester.

The Emancipation Proclamation.

C. H. D., West Millgrove, O.: President Lincoln, on Sept. 22, 1862, issued a proclamation giving notice to the people of the rebellious states that, unless they returned to their allegiance, he would, on Jan. 1, 1863, declare their slaves forever free. On the latter date the Emancipation Proclamation was issued declaring free all slaves in states in rebellion, except in certain portions of Louisiana and Virginia, then occupied by U. S. troops. Of course the slave states that had not seceded were not included. These were: Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri.

Blaine, the "Plumed Knight."

T. L.: In the Republican national convention of 1876, Col. Robert G. Ingersoll presented Blaine as a candidate for the Presidential nomination. In his speech, Ingersoll referred to one of Blaine's speeches in the House, and said: "Like an armed warrior, like a plumed knight, James G. Blaine marched down the halls of the American Congress, and threw his shining lance full and fair against the brazen forehead of every defamer of this country and ever maligner of its honor." From this remark the term "plumed knight" was applied to Blaine.

Kemmler's Re-Sentence.

Inquirer, Toledo, O.: When the judge who sentenced Kemmler, the wife murderer, who will be the first to die by electricity, said, "the order of the court is that the former sentence in your case be carried into effect within the week beginning April 28," he undoubtedly meant that the execution must occur within the seven days beginning on Monday, April 28. That is, he used the word "week" to mean seven consecutive days, and did not refer to the religious numbering of the days of the week, in which Sunday is always the first day.

Several Rulers' Names.

E. V. G.: The President of Mexico is Porfirio Diaz.

C. K. C., Faribault, Minn.: 1.—We do not recall name of the new Sultan of Morocco. 2.—The wife of King Oscar II of Sweden is Queen Sophia, daughter of the late Duke Wilhelm of Nassau. 3.—The wife of King Christian IX of Denmark, is Queen Louise, daughter of Landgrave Wilhelm of Hesse-Cassel.

Toledo's Vote in 1888.

F. L. H., Scott, O.: The vote of the city of Toledo at the gubernatorial election of 1889 was as follows:

Foraker, Rep.	6,345
Campbell, Dem.	5,977
Helwig, Proh.	110
Total	12,432

Grafting Wax.

Inquirer, Cadmus, O.: 1.—To make grafting wax, melt carefully, over a slow fire, 4 ounces pitch, 4 ounces resin, 2 ounces lard, and 2 ounces beeswax. 2.—Peppermint oil is obtained by distilling the herb with water. The oil comes over with the steam, and floats on the surface of the water in the receiver.

Gail Hamilton.

M. E. G., Canon City, Colo.: "Gail Hamilton" is the pen-name of Miss Mary Abigail Dodge, a niece of James G. Blaine, and a writer of some note, born in Massachusetts in 1830.

Miscellaneous.

Anon, Lone Pine, Wis.: Consult some member of that organization.

R. M.: We will print Lincoln's Gettysburg speech in the issue of May 29.

C. W. E., Toledo, O.: The present mayor of Columbus, Mr. Bruck, is a Democrat.

——, O.: For works to convert a Catholic to Protestantism, apply to some minister.

F. M., Van Wyen, Idaho: The bill amending the timber culture act has not yet become a law.

W. J. W., Civil Bond, Mo.: The largest flouring mills in the United States are at Minneapolis.

Kentuckian, Hickory Grove, Ky.: 1.—To answer would take too much space. 2.—We give it up.

Subscriber, ——, Mo.: Send a statement of the facts to the Postmaster General, if you think the postmaster is not attending to his duty. An inspector will be sent to investigate the case.

C. J. B., Unadilla, Mich.: Consult some member of the order for the details of its organization.

H. M. M., Millesburg, Pa.: The characters you mention are all fictitious, and appear in Rider Haggard's novel entitled "She."

A. B., Ironville, O.: The whipping-post, as a punishment for minor crimes, has been used in Delaware ever since colonial days.

S. N. B., Hickory, Mo.: You will find the list of defaulting Southern state treasurers in an editorial in this issue of THE BLADE.

Mrs. G. S.: It is utterly impossible for us to find the name of a subscriber to the Weekly Blade if the postoffice address is not given.

J. F. M., German, O., is informed by a correspondent that there is a liquid, called "smoke extract," for curing meats, and sold by druggists.

J. W. F., Mt. Olive, Ill.: You should understand that the events narrated in "Come Forth" are pure fiction, except so far as named in the gospels.

T. B. P., Clarinda, Iowa: There is an organization called the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, composed of the surviving officers of that army.

Veteran's Son, Kan.: Mrs. Stevens was given a pension in recognition of the valor of her father, Col. Baker, who was killed at the battle of Ball's Bluff.

S. A. F., Buffalo, O.: The population of Melbourne, Australia, was estimated at 470,000 in 1888. Its population is white. We know nothing of its liquor laws.

Leviticus: To exterminate crayfish (not "crabs," as the latter only live in salt water) is to put two or three lively catfish in the spring. They will eat all the crayfish.

F. S. F., New Concord, O.: In dictionaries, where a word has two spellings, the one the author considered entitled to preference is given first, in order to mark the fact.

E. B., Minneapolis, Colo.: The flesh of sea fishes is no more salty than that of fresh water fishes. Fishes do not live upon the water, but upon what they find in the water.

W. W. H., Stokes, Ill.: During the dark days at the beginning of secession, Horace Greeley used the phrase, in an editorial, about allowing "our erring sisters depart in peace."

H. M., Broadway, Va.: The office of chancellor of the German Empire covers the same ground as our secretary of State, but its incumbent has wider powers than our secretary.

K. B. K., Ostrander, O.: Rhode Island did not send any delegates to the constitutional convention of 1787, because she was opposed to the plan of a stronger federal government than the confederation.

C. H. C., Luckey, O.: 1.—Chinese are not eligible to citizenship in the United States. 2.—A man can not get the training for a lecturer in any school, but must be fitted to become of his own experience, travels, work, etc.

F. E. R., Waltz, Mich.: A bill to pay back to drafted men the money they paid for substitutes, etc., would be laughed out of congress, and the man who would seriously propose it would be the champion idiot of America.

M. T., Arcadia, N. Y.: First-class newspapers do not furnish their reporters with theater tickets, etc. The free pass nuisance is dying out, and newspaper reporters have something else to do than to be attending theaters regularly.

A. B. W., White Rock, Kan.: Starch can only be manufactured profitably in large quantities. Get up a stock company, and get some man experienced in the manufacture to direct the erection of buildings, purchase of machinery, etc.

S. J. W., Wilkinson, Kan.: The American Protective Tariff League of the United States has a vice president and state secretary for every state. In Kansas, Wm. A. Peffer is vice president, and J. G. Wood state secretary—both of Topeka.

Fidus: 1.—The Iberian peninsula is Spain and Portugal. 2.—There are two soldiers' homes in Ohio—the National Military Home, at Dayton, under control of the United States, and the Ohio Soldiers' Home, at Sandusky, controlled by the state.

H. M., Milesburg, Pa.: 1.—Boston, Mass., was named after Boston, England, which was originally "Botolph's Town," which has been shortened into Boston. 2.—"Idaho" is said to mean "the gem of the mountains," but we can not certify to its correctness.

E. M. N., Lewiston, N. Y.: 1.—The rights of aliens are fixed by law, which differs in the different states. In some they can not hold real estate, while in others they can. 2.—A naturalized citizen of this country can go back to the land of his birth and be naturalized there, is he chooses.

——, Fort Wayne, Ind.: 1.—The debt statement THE BLADE publishes each month will tell you the amount of money in the Treasury. 2.—There is only about $22,000,000 of public funds loaned to national banks out of over $60,000,000 loaned under Secretary Whitney, and that is being called in.

Banker, Guard, Kan.: 1.—A teller receives the money from depositors and pays checks, drafts, etc.; he is a subordinate of the cashier, who has charge of the books, payments and receipts of the bank. 2.—We think the first bonds to raise money to carry on the war were the 6's of 1861, due in 1881.

M. A. B., Clay, Ark.: 1.—Rome was founded B. C. 753. Jerusalem was originally called Jebus, and no one knows when it was founded. Jebus was captured by David about 1046 B. C., and named Jerusalem. 2.—Carthage was founded in what is now the country of Tunis. No city stands on its site.

Reader, Branch, Wis.: 1. Glass is made of sand, soda, lime, and sometimes other ingredients, melted together. The details would take too much space. 2.—England's greatness is unwritten, and don't need any pending. It is simply the precedents set down by legislation ever since Magna Charta was signed by King John.

S. A. M., New Amsterdam, Ind.: When we said, in an answer, that when the greenbacks depreciated in value, "the soldier had time enough to complain of it as others," we referred to the fact that all federal officials, members of Congress, clerks in departments, etc., did not have their salaries raised during the war, despite the depreciation of greenbacks.

T. H. W., Pisa, O.: There is no "history" of the raising of flags on school-houses. Within the past two years it has been provided for in numerous places, and we do not know that any one person or town is entitled to the honor of starting it. During the war, the flag over a school-house was a common sight in Ohio, as the writer well remembers.

Subscriber, Wellington, Kan.: 1.—The cause of the depression in prices of farm produce was exhaustively treated editorially in the Weekly Blade of March 20th, "The Western Farmer," and that of April 3—"Farm Mortgages." Inflation of the currency increases all prices at the expense of financial derangement, as was experienced during the war, by merely reducing the purchasing power of the dollar. The fundamental error of those who preach "an increase of the currency per capita," is that no matter how much the currency is increased, if its purchasing power decreases in proportion, nobody is any better off.

HIS WICKED FAREWELL.

No longer trifling may I stand;
'Tis lodge with me or you know;
Cling not so with that little hand;
I'm sorry, but must go.

The hand is soft as e'er I saw,
As soft as white as wool,
But give me, when I come to draw,
A hand that's called a "full."

"You're fair, my love, when to your cheek
The blood comes the floating blush,
Yet fairer still is what I seek,
It's called a 'royal flush.'"

So spake the club-man at the door,
Nor heeded wifely arts
To keep him home—said this and more,
Ungallant knave of hearts!
—[Merchant Traveler.

The Spring Medicine.

The popularity which Hood's Sarsaparilla has gained as a spring medicine is wonderful. It possesses just those elements of health-giving, blood-purifying and appetite-restoring which everybody seems to need at this season. Do not continue in a dull, tired, unsatisfactory condition when you may be so much benefited by Hood's Sarsaparilla. It purifies the blood and makes the weak strong.

At a Chicago Wedding.

Munsey's Weekly.

Girl Friend (kissing the bride ecstatically)—Oh, Fan, you did splendidly at the altar, and this is only your second.

Bride (complacently)—Yes, I've really had very little practice.

Good Enough for the Price.

Munsey's Weekly.

Mr. Slowpay—I don't like to complain about trifles, Mrs. Snapper, but my hash appears to consist largely of fragments of deal board.

Mrs. Snapper (the landlady)—Well, what kind of board do you expect for $5 a week? Polished mahogany?

Next Summer.

Lawrence American.

Wife (awakening her husband)—Oh, George, there's a burglar in the house!

Husband (sleepily)—Huh!

"Yes, and he's at my jewelry box!"

"Huh!"

"No; I declare, he's in the ice chest room!"

"Is that so? Give me my revolver, quick!"

SICK HEADACHE

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

Positively Cured by these Little Pills. They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER, &c. They regulate the Bowels and prevent Constipation and Piles. The smallest and easiest to take. Only one pill a dose. Purely vegetable. Price 25 cents.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., Prop'rs, New York.

APRIL DRESS PARADE.

IT MAKES A PERPETUAL FESTIVAL.

The Especially Noticeable Thing About the Spring Gown is Its Sleeves—The Newest Developments in Picturesque Summer Styles.

[Written for the Blade by Ellen Osborne. Copyrighted 1890.]

OUR curiosity has been satisfied measurably about our spring gowns. The Easter parade is over and the transition from the heavy furs and rich draperies of winter to the freshness and delicacy of spring clothing has been accomplished to the general satisfaction. The change in the aspect of the streets, the theaters, the opera houses and all places of amusement is nothing short of startling. The sudden blossoming of Heliotrope and Spanish yellow, of flower-sprigged challies and broad rose-colored sashes, of great lace hats covered with wreaths, of bright plaided ribbons, of flowing veils and parasols plaited of crepe de Chine with handles of inlaid wood and Dresden china balls, the flowering of the

THREE TOILETS FOR SPRING.

tailor jacket and the gay and spirituelle bonnet is as exhilarating in its way as to turn from a gray and sodden landscape and come face to face with a great glowing bed of pansies. Luxurious as is the winter wardrobe it is only the summer dress that woman really likes to wear.

To begin with the bonnet, I saw in the Easter fashion exhibition, and in the church parade nothing much prettier than this, which was shown by one of the city's great Bon Marches. A ficlu-like scrap of silver lace, finished in a pattern of Vandyke points and edged with silver cord, was folded in plaits like a fan. This fan was the bonnet save that under its folds in front were one or two dull red nasturtium flowers. Or this: A gold bullion toque made to imitate the braid of a rough and ready straw, with folds of black tulle to the face and a wreath of black velvet flower petals. Or this: An evening bonnet of white crepe shirred in radiating lines like a shell, each line twisted with fine gold braids; bands of Spanish yellow velvet came next the face and were covered with gold passementerie.

As to dimensions, the spring hat runs to mad extremes. One day last week I deliberately watched a woman buy seven hats in succession. The first one chosen was a morsel of a black lace handkerchief dropped on the hair and holding two or three buttercups. The second was a Neapolitan straw with a brim nearly a foot wide and bent and folded and twisted until you might have supposed its final shape the result of the manipulations of an artistically minded cyclone. It was trimmed with green velvet and an avalanche of yellow ostrich tips, and though a humid one was huge and smacked of the fifteenth century.

The especially noticeable thing about the spring gown is its sleeves. During the long months of winter the dressmakers decided to add another half yard or so of material to their already ample dimensions, and this increase is concentrated at the top, where pads are beginning to be required to support the high shoulder while hardly enough is spared to make a skin-tight fit about the forearm. The natural effect of these eccentric wings on the shoulders is the neck's decline and fall in importance as an item of woman's beauty or even as a feature of her anatomy. The bits of lingerie most in vogue are the Henri Deux, Catherine de Medici and Joan d'Arc ruffs which are very wide and laid in plaits or flutes about the throat, often touching the ears and resting with their outer edges on the sleeve wings, thus reducing woman to a neckless animal whose head rises most ungracefully, almost as if beauty were humpbacked, between her shoulders. These styles are what we have agreed to call "picturesque," but when carried to the fashionable extreme they are far from beautiful.

A PRETTY HOUSE DRESS.

The few who enjoy the entree to the private rooms of the Fifth avenue modistes are observing the beauties of a great number of swell summer gowns. Mrs. McKee, the mother of the youngster who is alleged to be the ruling spirit of the administration, has three suits in the process of construction which will surpass every simple and very becoming. One of these is a light summer gown for Deer Park. The skirt is of challie, the waist of figured wash silk. The shirred bodice is belted with a ribbon and has jacket fronts, which are quite novel. The sleeves are finished with jockeys of simulated tripie capes, which are not pretty because they are meaningless, but the broad flower-decked hat which goes with the costume is very pretty indeed.

The second of Mrs. McKee's dresses is a striped silk in pinkish heliotrope and straw yellow, made with apron drapery buttoned on with small gold buttons, with Eton jacket, pique skirt and cuffs and narrow yellow sash tied on one side. A small capote bonnet with high aigrettes for trimmings is made to accompany this toilet and matches it in colors.

The third dress is made with a polonaise of yellowish gray grenadine with jacket fronts and revers turned back with blue silk. This is worn with a shirt of cream-colored linen with gold buttons and with a belt with a gold buckle.

A New York firm has completed a trousseau for an Easter bride which is worthy of notice, every item being in excellent taste and the latest fashion.

The bride's traveling dress of gray cloth is characterized by extreme simplicity and neatness, combined with a faultless accuracy of cut which lifts it above the commonplace and into the realm of the artistic. It has a simply draped skirt with front of a plaided material and bodice with postilion back and ornamentations of small silver buttons and one of those long silver bucales which no fashionable woman's wardrobe should be without this season. The sleeves are gathered into deep cuffs buttoned.

An afternoon dress is of white India silk flowered with long sprays of yellow honeysuckle blooms. It is a princess gown with petticoat of white lace, and girdle and dainty shoulder knots of yellow velvet. A pretty bodice feature is the knotting of lace scarfs across the bosom from the arm holes on either side, the scarf ends hanging below the waist line. The sleeves are high on the shoulder, but not high enough to necessitate padding the sheer material.

A ball dress is of Spanish yellow crepe, embroidered about the bottom in a wavy ribbon effect with green silk threads. The bodice is cut with a square neck, edged about completely with knots of green velvet ribbon. There is a green velvet sash and short puffed sleeves.

A trained dinner dress of silver gray ottoman silk is richly and exquisitely embroidered with shaded Parma violets, a mass of the flowers dropping upon the lap and down the front of the gown. One side of the shirt is draped with heliotrope crepe and the violet embroidery is continued about the train. There are short sleeves, a velvet sash and a low cut bodice whose crossing folds are edged with crepe.

A negligee of Spanish yellow China silk has a heavy black silk cord girdle. Another in gray silk has a Henri Deux ruff of black lace in Vandyke points. A tea gown in pinkish heliotrope crepe is gathered at the waist with watered heliotrope ribbons. The drooping sleeves are lined with white silk and the Joan d'Arc neck ruff of white point lace is very full and wide, overlapping similar ruches which are gathered into the armholes above the arms making huge epaulets which fall down over the sleeves.

A pretty little house dress is of pale tan-colored nun's cloth with a deep Persian border. The skirt is round and full, and the gathered bodice has a pointed girdle; below the collar is a deep frill.

Several pretty wraps go with this trousseau. A handsome long wrap is of tan-colored cloth with collar, sleeves and girdle of green velvet. A jacket of blue cloth is very pretty with simulated zouave of silver passementerie and high rolling collar. It does not button but is closed with silver ornaments and tasseled cords. A magnificent evening wrap is of white sicilienne completely covered with elaborate gold-wrought embroidery and lined with moss-green silk. With this wrap goes a scarf of gold-dotted tulle to cover the head and to be clasped at the throat with a gold ribbon, and a white feather fan with sticks and guards of mother-of-pearl inlaid with gold.

AN OPERA TOILET.

The presentation of Parsifal in Brooklyn was a dress event of considerable magnitude. The "full" dress was strongly urged and the request was very generally complied with. The big Academy of Music was one sea of uncovered heads gleaming with jewels and bright pins. The beauty and grace lent to the performance by the absence of the bonnet and by the dazzling toilets of the ladies, who wandered about during the supper intermission, quite as if at a reception, will have an influence probably in the direction of a general banishment of headgear as places of public amusement from the orchestra chairs as from opera boxes. One of the prettiest toilets was worn by a tall blonde girl whose light hair was twisted in a Greek knot and ornamented with a diamond butterfly. Her gown was a very pale green *mousseline de soie*, with a full bodice confined at the waist with a belt of metallic passementerie with fringe. Mrs. Cleveland wore copper color and blacs, retained her bonnet and looked rather pale.

PROGRESSIVE AUTOGRAPHS.

An Awful Job, Which Would Better Not be Repeated by Any One.

The autograph collector occasionally rises to heights of boldness which in a better cause would be truly noble. Last year a Western boy entered the ranks with a scheme which one can only compare with the "Please make two copies" abomination. The venture was a success, but collectors are emphatically warned that the waste-basket awaits the albums of imitators.

Upon the first of a little package of sheets of paper was written in a boyish hand:

To the person to whom this letter is addressed:

Dear Sir, Madame: I inclose you a portion of my autograph album. You would be very much obliged if you would sign your name on one page, and then, addressing an envelope to the next person after you on the opposite page, inclose the letter and the book, if you will, and greatly oblige, Your obedient servant,

On the opposite page were written the following names: Oliver Wendell Holmes, Oliver Optic, E. E. Hale and E. Eggleston, Boston; S. L. Clemens, C. D. Warner and Mrs. H. B. Stowe, Hartford, Conn.; I. K. Morton, General T. Sherman, the Rev. Howard Crosby, T. De Witt Talmage, George William Curtis and Theodore Cuyler, New York city; Gen. and Mrs. Hayes, Fremont, O., and Miss Frances Willard, Evanston, Ill.

Upon the third page began the autographs:

WILLIAM T. ADAMS, caret
Sicut hominis umbra.
(Oliver Optic.)

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.
(A firm hand.)
I am glad to do what you wish.

EDWARD EVERETT HALE.
(On the note Dr. Hale adds)—
"Dear Eggleston: The above is forwarded to me by dear Doctor Holmes. I now forward to you. Please pass it on till the tuck shall come, higher—higher."

Here's my hand,
Sincerely yours,
EDWARD EGGLESTON.

(Dear Clemens: Pass the thing along. I hope it'll get back to him safely.
Yours, truly,
MARK TWAIN.

(Pass the damned piece of impudence to Warner.)
Yours sincerely,
CHARLES DUDLEY WARNER.

(Passed on in an unrefined spirit to Mrs. Stowe.)
Yours very truly,
HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

(Passed by Mrs. Stowe to Lee P. Morton. Please pass the little boy's book along.)
Very truly yours,
LEVI P. MORTON.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

(Passed by Gen. Sherman to the Rev. Mr. Talmage, who will please pass to Mr. Howard Crosby, whose address is Unknown.)
With wishes for your happiness,
T. DE WITT TALMAGE.

(Passed by T. De Witt Talmage to the Rev. Dr. Cuyler. Beliedi the inclosed.)
Yours (estotally,
THEO. L. CUYLER.

(Dear Mr. Curtis: I hope you will add a name that all men honor.)
GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS.

(By Mr. Curtis to Dr. Crosby: I follow my leader.)
HOWARD CROSBY.

(Dear President Hayes: Keep up the boy's ball.)
With best wishes,
RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.
LUCY W. HAYES.

(Passed by Mr. and Mrs. Hayes to Miss Frances Willard, with kindest regards. The good thing about it is that such busy persons as have here given their time to make a boy happy, seem to have made themselves happy in doing it. You will, I am sure, go and do likewise.—R. B. H.

FRANCES E. WILLARD.

Miss Willard returned the book to the owner, so made no further comment; but speaking of it to a friend, declared that after reading of the plan, "like the Queen of Sheba, there was no more spirit within me."—[New York Tribune.

A Lively Topic.

Washington Post.

The proposition to open the next Iowa campaign with a corkscrew has set all the papers in the Hawkeye state to discussing the matter, and the opinions are as diversified as the conflicting tariff interests.

Chicago and Madrid.

New York Sun.

Mr. Bleecker (telling of his travels)—I saw in Madrid a matador who always receives $10,000 for killing a bull.

Miss Laweyar (of Chicago)—Why, that is more than the foreman in papa's abattoir gets in a year.

Remember That

In all cases, where a mild but thoroughly effective aperient is needed, Ayer's Pills are the best. They improve the appetite, restore healthy action to the bowels, and regulate the liver. No pill is in greater demand or more frequently recommended by the profession.

"Ayer's Pills are in general demand among our customers. Our sales of them exceed those of all other pills combined. We have never known them fail to give entire satisfaction."—Wright & Hannelly, San Diego, Texas.

"For a long time I was a sufferer from stomach, liver, and kidney troubles, experiencing much difficulty in digestion, with severe pains in the lumbar region and other parts of the body. Having tried a variety of remedies, including warm baths, with only temporary relief, about three months ago I began the use of Ayer's Pills, and already my health is so much improved that I gladly testify to the superior merits of this medicine."—Manoel Jorge Pereira, Oporto, Portugal.

"I am never without a box of Ayer's Pills in the house."—Mrs. Edwin Bartow, 425 Bristol st., Buffalo, N. Y.

"I have used Ayer's Pills a number of years for liver troubles, and have always been greatly benefited by the use of this medicine."—Jos. Y. Metty, South Rockwood, Michigan.

AYER'S PILLS ARE THE Best Cathartic.

"Having been subject, for years, to constipation, without being able to find much relief, I at last tried Ayer's Pills, and I deem it both a duty and a pleasure to testify that I have derived great benefit from their use. For over two years past I have taken one of these pills every night. I would not be without them."—George W. Bowman, 26 East Main st., Carlisle, Pa.

"Having long used Ayer's Pills with good results, I can confidently recommend them above all others."—Thomas Conners, M. D., Centre Bridge, Pa.

"My husband was cured of jaundice by the use of Ayer's Pills."—Mrs. McSkeehome, Lombard st., Philadelphia, Pa.

"I have used Ayer's Pills in my family for several years, and believe them to be the best pill made."—S. C. Darden, Darden, Mississippi.

"Ayer's Cathartic Pills have been the only medicine needed in my house for a number of years. I have witnessed wonderful results, in cases of rheumatism and liver troubles, from the use of Ayer's Pills."—William Dow, Maine, Minn

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1890.

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ROBINSON LOCKE,..... Editor.

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TEN DOLLARS FOR CLUBS!

THE BLADE is now offering the highest cash payments for clubs of any of the newspapers of the country. Those who wish to raise clubs and receive a cash premium will please write to us for confidential terms to agents.

Those who desire to earn one or more of the other premiums on our list, should read the following offers:

For a club of 10 subscribers, at $1 each, we will give a Trenton Watch, worth $5—a *guaranteed watch.*

For a club of 15 subscribers, at $1 each, a china tea set.

For a club of 20 subscribers, at $1 each, a china chamber set, or a Blade cook stove.

The teaset, chamber set and cook stove are the same that have already been described in our columns.

As an aid in raising clubs, write to us for all the specimen copies you may need. We will gladly furnish them free.

THE free traders in this country are bitterly opposed to any plan of increasing our foreign trade by subsidies to mail steamship lines; they declare that nothing can be done for our commerce except through smashing the tariff. The disproof of their position comes from Canada, which, be it remembered, has a protective tariff. Its government recently subsidized a steamer line to the West Indies, and now that several trips have been made, the Canadian government has been assured that the West Indians, now they are certain of regular and prompt communication, will gladly purchase in Canada, in exchange for their own products, many articles they have hitherto bought of the United States. The Montreal *Gazette* says:

"The opinion prevails that the new line will be of much service both to Canada and the islands, by permitting direct purchase of goods in Canada, such as flour, certain woods hitherto obtained from our neighbors, etc."

Now, if protected Canada can enlarge her trade in this way, why cannot the United States accomplish the same result by the same means? We pause for a reply from our esteemed free trade friends.

THE nomination of Brig. Gen. MILES to the major generalship made vacant by the death of Gen. CROOK, is one that can be most heartily commended. Gen. MILES has a most creditable military record, both during the civil war and in Indian campaigns since its close. Like Gen. CROOK, he is renowned as a fighter, though, as in the case of that brave and excellent officer, his administrative capacity has also been very conspicuous. He is not a West Point man, but came out of the rebellion a major general of volunteers; in 1866 he was appointed to the regular army as colonel of the 40th infantry, and became a brigadier general in 1880. He is on the official army "list of officers who have received commissions for specific distinguished services." This is the same roll of honor on which are emblazoned the glorious names of GRANT, SHERMAN, TERRY, CROOK, and other illustrious soldiers. But Gen MILES is the first in many years who has risen from civil life to the highest existing army rank. Col. GRIERSON, of the 10th cavalry, succeeds to the position till now held by MILES, but will soon be retired by reason of age.

THE farmers of Europe are in dire distress, and mortgages are eating up the substance of the land owners, in free trade England as well as on the continent. Government statistics in every country show that mortgage debts have enormously increased within the past decade everywhere in Europe. In Austria 40 per cent of the farm land is heavily encumbered. In Germany 80 per cent of the real estate is mortgaged, and much of it to such an extent that it can not be redeemed. In Wales the majority of all the real estate is mortgaged for from 40 to 75 per cent of its gross value. In Prussia 80 per cent of the assessed valuation is covered by mortgage. In England the decline of rents, made necessary by the agricultural depression, is cutting so seriously into the revenues of the aristocracy that a fresh and large increase in the mortgage indebtedness is confidently expected.

THE Democratic press very rarely takes strong ground, on any question of politics, local or general, in favor of a genuine, consistent, American line of policy. It generally temporizes, in order to curry favor for its party. Hence it is with a pleasurable emotion of surprise that we find the Chicago *Herald*, which is Democratically dyed in the wool, taking ultra-American ground on the Bennett school law of Wisconsin. It says:

"The state of Wisconsin has the right to Americanize its foreign population and to compel the children of its foreign-born citizens to be educated and to be taught the English language. Anything to the contrary involves a want of national self-respect, and is repugnant to the feelings and instincts of every American citizen who is worthy of the name. If the Democracy of Wisconsin should commit itself to such a position it will simply invite its fate."

ALL admirers of the late HORACE GREELEY will regret the destruction of his letters by the recent fire which burned the Greeley house at Chappaqua, N. Y. In a small one-story addition at the rear of the house were trunks full of the editor's private correspondence, including letters received from his friends and political allies during the war and in the days of his campaign for the Presidency. In this collection there must have been many which would have proved valuable contributions to the history of the times of the founder of a great newspaper.

WE are inclined to think that one of the results of the Pan-American Congress will be in the presentation of a scheme for commercial reciprocity between ourselves and the other independent nations of the three Americas. The indications are that Secretary BLAINE will accomplish this, which has been a favorite idea of his, and would doubtless have gone into operation years ago had not the tragic death of GARFIELD led to his retirement from the direction of our foreign affairs.

THE state of Maryland is on the road to Republicanism. The Democratic majority in 1876, was 19,000; in 1880, 15,000; in 1884, 11,000; in 1888, 6,000. If the Gorman ring is allowed to "run things" much longer, the people will overthrow it and Democracy together, and make a Republican state of Maryland.

GEN. CAPRIVI is unmarried. Now that he is chancellor of the German empire he may be able to captivate some fair daughter of the Fatherland.

THE NEBRASKA CAMPAIGN.

The voters of the state of Nebraska, at the election next November, will have two propositions submitted to them for the amendment of the state constitution. The first is the following:

"The manufacture, sale and keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage are forever prohibited in this state, and the legislature shall provide by law for the enforcement of this provision."

This is the proposed prohibitory amendment. The second is the following:

"The manufacture, sale and keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage shall be licensed and regulated by law."

These are really alternatives. Each is distinct from the other, and the voters of Nebraska must vote for or against each, independently of the other. The Supreme court of the state, in reply to a resolution of inquiry from the state House of Representatives, passed during its last session, said: "The propositions being independent, an elector may vote for one and against the other, or for or against both."

This opinion of the state Supreme court renders it possible for both amendments to be adopted—in which case each would negative the other, and both be void. Or it may be possible that both shall be defeated, causing the policy of the state toward the liquor question to remain unchanged. While these two things are possibilities, it is not probable that either will occur. The voters of the state who favor Prohibition will vote for the first, and against the second; those who are opposed to Prohibition will vote against the first and for the second. It is not probable that any one will throw away his vote on either. Every legal voter in the state has two votes on the liquor question. He will either vote for Prohibition and against license, or he will vote in favor of license and against Prohibition. And we sincerely hope that the result will show that the majority of the people of the state are in favor of Prohibition, and opposed to the licensing of the Rum traffic.

It is hardly possible that any voter who is opposed to the Rum traffic should, at the same time, vote for a proposition that would legalize that traffic in Nebraska; nor that an opponent of Prohibition should vote for the outlawry of the traffic. The battle will be between the two methods of dealing with the Rum curse—the one, to render it illegal, the other to legalize it. And the victory will carry with it results not specifically mentioned in either of the two amendments proposed. Should the Prohibitory amendment triumph, the demand will come for legislation to carry it into full effect, and this demand can not be denied by the legislature. Should the license amendment carry, and the other be defeated, the triumphant liquor men will be authorized to demand of the legislature laws in harmony with the expressed will of the people. And it is safe to say that no local option law could be passed, but that a comparatively low schedule of license fees would be the result. For, in the face of a majority against Prohibition, the inevitable result would be that a demand for lower licenses would be acceded to by the state law makers.

There are two classes of citizens in Nebraska who are directly interested in the success of Prohibition. The first of these is the farming community; the second, all merchants in the state who deal in anything outside of Rum in its various forms. To them we wish to submit the following:

Prohibition should be carried, in order that the enormous waste of money, which is now spent for Rum, shall be stopped. It is a fact which cannot be denied that when a man falls under the domination of the Rum habit, his expenditures for food for himself and his family are the first that he reduces, in order to use the more for indulgence in the vice of intemperance. JOHN B. GOUGH, the brilliant temperance reformer, but stated the truth when he said that, as they came into church, the voluminous silken skirts of the Rumseller's wife, as she moved, with stately steps, up the aisle, formed, with their *frou-frou*, the words "whis-s-ky! whis-s-ky!" while the sound of the scanty calico dress of the drunkard's wife, as she hurriedly passed to her place, formed the syllables "liv-er! liv-er!"

The illustration is a striking one. It involves the fact that the drunkard's family are pinched in their expenditures for both food and clothing, while the Rumseller's family are lavishly provided with both. But how many families must live in poverty that one may be lavish? Literally, hundreds! Hence the wise course is to vote for the amendment that will bring at least comfort to the many, instead of luxury to the few. Not only does this argument appeal to the retail merchants who deal in food, clothing, and all the necessities and comforts of life, but to the farmers, who raise the food for the world. If the money that is, at the present time, spent for Rum in the state of Nebraska alone, were diverted from this, and spent instead (as it would be) for needed things, the result would be a much larger business for the merchants of the state who are engaged in legitimate traffic, and a decided increase in the consumption of the more profitable crops raised by the farmers.

The increase in the consumption of live stock products alone would more than recompense the farmers of the state for the very small per cent of their products which now go toward the production of Rum in in any form. This is so small that the adoption of Prohibition would not have any effect upon the market or the price of these things, while it would most decidedly increase the consumption of other articles that they produce. In point of fact, there is no other thing which can be mentioned, in which the amount paid to labor, and for the original materials of manufacture, is so small, when compared with the retail price of the product, as in the manufacture and sale of Rum.

Nor will it avail for the Rum Power to advance the well-worn plea, that "Prohibition does not prohibit." It is true that in states where a large proportion of the population is in cities, there would be great difficulty in enforcing a Prohibitory law, from the admitted fact that in cities the majority of the people are not, as yet, in favor of supporting such a law. It is admitted by every one that, in rural communities and in the smaller towns, the law can be and is fully and effectually enforced. This is true in Iowa, in Kansas, in Maine, and in every other state which has tried Prohibition. Nebraska is an agricultural state, without great cities; and there should be no difficulty in the proper enforcement of the law, if her people shall decide by their votes to adopt the first amendment, and thereby to abolish the saloon and

Pulverize the Rum Power.

THE decrease of speculation, so noticeable in the United States, extends also to all the great commercial nations of Europe. The operators on the stock exchanges and bourses of London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna complain as loudly of the dullness of business and the indisposition of the general public to speculate, as do those of Wall street.

THE railroad ticket brokers profess themselves sanguine that the Baker bill, prohibiting the sale of tickets for interstate railroads except by authorized agents of the roads themselves, will be defeated in Congress, because, they say, the railroads do not want to have it passed, but regard ticket scalpers with friendly interest.

THE Civil Service commission still holds its own, but it should get rid of LYMAN.

DO YOU FAVOR SERVICE PENSIONS?

If you do, read the pension article on the 5th page, headed "Once More," and write your postal cards *at once;* then get every friend in your township who favors service pensions to do the same thing, and do it as quickly as you can. Keep them pouring in on Congress for ten days or two weeks!

THE BOOTHMAN SERVICE PENSION BILL.

The service pension bill of Representative BOOTHMAN, of Ohio, introduced in the national House the other day, is a sincere effort to compromise the pension question. On the one hand are those who wish to pass the Senate dependent bill, and who are opposed to a general service pension, on account of the supposed great expenditure it will entail; on the other, those who favor a general service pension, because it is a debt honestly due the veterans, and which must be and should be met. Mr. BOOTHMAN takes the ground that the term of service should determine the amount of the pension, and therefore adopts a plan based on the cent a day idea. The provisions of his bill are, in brief:

It provides a service pension of 1 cent per month for each day of service to every man who served in the Union army during the late war, without regard to age. Widows of those drawing the service pension will be placed on the rolls at $8 per month during widowhood, but the right is reserved to widows to prosecute and obtain a pension under the present law, by showing that the husband died from disability contracted in service and line of duty. The bill also grants a pension of $3 a month to minor children under 16 years of age of soldiers who die while drawing a pension, and if any of the children are so helpless as to require the care of another person, the pension is to continue during this helplessness. If the widow dies or remarries before the children attain the age of 16, the pension is to be paid to them until they attain that age.

While this would not require as much annually as the Grand Army per diem bill, it presents the advantage of paying most to those who served the longest. Those who were discharged because of wounds or other disabilities incurred in the service either are drawing invalid pensions, or are entitled to them. The measure in one in whose favor much might be said; and if the differences between the advocates of the two plans, and those committed to some variation of either, are obliged to be reconciled by compromise, Congress might do worse than to take the Boothman bill as a basis for the compromise bill. It is perfectly plain that no bill yet considered in committee will be passed in its present form, and that the legislation which is tolerably certain to pass will be of a compromise nature. Major BOOTHMAN realizes this, and his bill is certainly an honest endeavor to reconcile the two wings of the pension men on an intermediate measure.

"ANDERSONVILLE" GOING RAPIDLY.

Several weeks ago, we announced that we had printed 1,300 copies of "Andersonville," and that when they were exhausted the book will be out of print, and therefore unobtainable. Since that time, we have sold about 700 copies. Therefore, but 600 copies remain; and it may be taken as a fact that those who do not order within 30 days will be too late. All will be gone.

The book is one which every one interested in the war of the rebellion should have. It is the recital of the experience of JOHN MCELROY in Andersonville and other rebel prisons, and gives the best history of life in the prison-pens of the South which has ever been published. It is a large volume—so large that the postage on it is 25 cents—and was originally sold by subscription at $3 per copy. We will now send a copy by mail, postpaid, for $1.25. Remember this is the last chance; when the 1,300 copies now on hand are sold, the book will be out of print. Address "THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio."

SAMUEL J. RANDALL.

In the death of Representative RANDALL the Democratic party has lost one of its safest and wisest leaders, albeit one not in accord with the later chiefs who make free trade the shibboleth of this latter-day Democracy. Mr. RANDALL was a broader man in the policies he advocated than those who have usurped the leadership which was his by right and by party service. He believed in the policy of protection, and even all the pressure the Cleveland administration could bring to bear upon him could not make him support the Mills bill against his beliefs. He was a strong, determined man, and no influence could swerve him one hair's breadth from his convictions. His death is a loss to the nation, as well as to his party, for he has been certainly the most useful member of the House during the twenty-six years he has spent as a member of that body.

IF the cable predictions of a row between Servia and Bulgaria should prove true, that might be the torch which would set all Europe in a blaze of war. Russia would seize the opportunity to capture territory which she covets, and Austria could not allow any such action without armed protest. Then would be seen whether the triple alliance was still strong, and it is possible that every power would be compelled to take part in the strife. Both Servia and Bulgaria are insignificent in themselves, but they may bring about important results.

DEMOCRATIC papers are crying "A Rebuke to President HARRISON," and pointing to Democratic successes in town elections in Indiana. This is all bosh. A municipal election is no indication of public sentiment in a state. Local considerations govern the votes of the citizens entirely and national questions are not considered. President HARRISON has done nothing so far to deserve a rebuke, nor has he received one.

THINGS are not altogether lovely in the new republic of Brazil if the statements of a correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun* are correct. Writing from Rio Janeiro he says:

"They are a crowd of self-elected humbugs, who have no legal status and have never made any attempt to conciliate the sympathies of foreigners, their intense conceit rendering them blind and deaf to everything but the most sickening flattery."

THERE seems to be quite a row brewing over the African explorations. The English papers attack EMIN PASHA for taking service under the German government, and now Herr REICHARD has denounced STANLEY in Berlin as a land grabber. It appears to be simply a question as to whether Great Britain or Germany shall obtain the most possessions in the dark continent.

IT is significant of the belief in the progress of the Northwest that South Dakota's first loan, $150,000 of 4 per cent. bonds, has all been sold at a premium of 3 per cent. No Southern state ever floated her bonds at so low a rate, and South Dakota gets her money on as favorable terms as do other Northern states.

THE Democrats of Congress are not going to bring in an opposition tariff bill. They propose to leave themselves a clear field to abuse the McKinley bill. It is always much easier to find fault with any measure than to suggest a better one.

THE proceedings of Congress will be much more interesting from this time forward. Legislation on many important subjects has been matured in the committee rooms, and will now be pushed through promptly.

A SUBSIDY QUERY.

A correspondent at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, (G. W. T.) sends us a clipping from some newspaper of his state, and wants to know why THE BLADE insists that it would be good policy to subsidize American lines of mail steamers to foreign countries, in order to increase our trade. The clipping is as follows:

"The declaration of a 6 per cent dividend by the Cunard steamship company shows that the ocean carrying trade between this country and Great Britain, with English ships, manned by English sailors and sailing under the English flag, is in a flourishing condition—from the English stockholders' point of view."

This is a case in which "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing," because the whole case is not stated. Let us enlighten our correspondent. First, as the paragraph states, the Cunard line, running steamships between New York and Liverpool, touching at Queenstown, pays 6 per cent to its stockholders. Why?

1.—Because it connects us with a country between which and this there is more travel than between us and any other—and passenger traffic pays better than freight;

2.—Because the Cunard line *receives a subsidy* from the British government, and has for many years. It received the enormous sum of $900,000 yearly until it had made the Collins line—an American line—unprofitable, and the latter retired. Since then its subsidy has been reduced, but is still what our own shipowners would regard as very liberal, and one that would enable them did they receive it, to open competition at once.

3. —Because the three newest of its eight vessels—the Aurania, Umbria and Etruria—each receives a bounty for the British Admiralty of about $37,000 each—which is about 2½ per cent yearly on the cost of the two last, and 3 per cent on the Aurania.

The subsidy and bounty alone will pay somewhere between 4 and 5 per cent on the stock, leaving only a small margin to be raised for the profits of their traffic. If this old and well-established line, running on the most profitable of all ocean routes, having a heavy passenger traffic, and enjoying heavy subsidy, can only clear 6 per cent a year to its owners, new American lines, on far less profitable routes, without government aid, would hardly present attractions enough to induce capitalists to invest in them. Does not our Iowa correspondent agree with us?

THE "DOOM-SEALERS."

Monday, April 14, was the day set by the "Doom-sealers," a clique of religious cranks in California, for the destruction of Chicago and Milwaukee, and of San Francisco, Oakland, and their neighboring towns, by a tremendous tidal wave or similar disturbance. The doomed cities still stand, and are likely to do so indefinitely, despite crank predictions.

It is astonishing that people of this day and generation can be found who will put the slightest faith in prophets of wrath and judgment. Yet the "Doom-sealers" appear to be a somewhat numerous body, embracing a considerable portion of the population of Oakland, California. They are headed by a Mrs. WOODWORTH, an "evangelist," and one GEORGE ERICKSON, a Norwegian. ERICKSON claims to have had a vision on January 24, in which the destruction of the cities named was revealed to him. Hundreds of his fanatical followers have been awaiting the event since the time of the alleged vision, and a few days before the predicted date they fled to the mountains to escape the cataclysm which didn't come.

ERICKSON appears to be really insane, and some time ago was placed in the Stockton asylum, where he still remains, apparently a hopeless maniac. Singularly enough, his deluded followers did not return to their sober senses, but maintained their belief in his crazy prediction. And it is safe to say its utter failure will have no effect upon them. They will simply assume that ERICKSON was in error as to the date, or something else of the sort, and the delusion will go on, precisely as "Millerism" did after the failure of the Day of Judgment to materialize on the date set by MILLER in October, 1842.

THE chances are favorable that New York will vote on a constitutional prohibitory amendment at a special election one year hence—in April, 1891. A proposition to amend the constitution of that state has to pass two successive legislatures before its submission to the people. In 1888 the present resolution was passed by both houses of the legislature; and the state senate has now passed it. Hence it has only to pass the house, in order to enable the people to vote upon it. The proposed amendment is as follows:

"Article —, Section 1. No person shall manufacture for sale, or sell or keep for sale as a beverage, any intoxicating liquors, whether brewed, fermented or distilled. The legislature shall by law prescribe regulations for the enforcement of this article, and shall provide suitable penalties for its violation."

OF course there will be a great outcry among the whisky-drinking and poker-playing officers of the army against Secretary PROCTOR'S proposed reform in army regulations in introducing what is known as the German army catalogue plan. He proposes a list of the names of the army officers, which shall contain, in addition to their rank and regular army record, a statement of their special qualifications and adaptability to special service, with perhaps a statement as to their personal habits with respect to industry and temperance. The reform will prove a healthy change and will operate to stimulate the ambition of all right-minded officers beyond the mere routine of military discipline.

WISCONSIN and Illinois must learn that this is a nation of Americans and that education in the English language, which is the language of the people, is an absolute necessity. German, French or any other foreign tongue may be taught as an accomplishment, but instruction in the English language must form the basis of public school education.

CHAIRMAN MORRILL, of the House Committee on Invalid Pensions, says that he will be compelled to asked for a day in the near future for the purpose of considering pension legislation. This indicates that he is yielding to the demands of the friends of service pensions. The dependent bill should have a general service pension scheme substituted for it.

THE strongest objection that is urged by the Democrats against Mr. LODGE'S election bill is that it is calculated to aid the Republican party. The bill is only intended to provide for a free ballot and an honest count, and this opposition seems to be a confession that Democratic success is impossible without crookedness of some sort.

THREE states have just tried the Australian ballot system at their municipal elections—Rhode Island, Wisconsin and Missouri—and the verdict is in each case favorable. The people like it, and everybody is satisfied except the men who hitherto have bought or controlled votes. Their occupation is gone.

AND now the cables tell us that the Princess of WALES is in a dangerous state of health. She has a painful cough, is stone deaf, looks old and haggard, and will not probably live to be Queen consort of England.

IT is noteworthy that the only vote in the Senate against SHERMAN'S anti-trust bill was cast by a Democrat—BLODGETT, of New Jersey.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

Though there was some flurry in the money market last week there was no hardening tendency, but rather a general drift towards lower figures. The first week of a new quarter is always more or less disturbed, for the outgoes of the last week of the previous quarter leave the banks depleted and the disbursements by the government for interest the first week of the new quarter do not get into the banks until the week is half over. The succeeding weeks, however, bring up the average and the disturbance is simply temporary. In New York the extremes for call money at the Stock Exchange last week, were 2 and 7 per cent, averaging about 4½ per cent. The *Financial Chronicle* says:

"There has been a good amount of money offering on call, as the banks are now lending in that way mainly, while bankers and brokers seem to be pretty well supplied with balances. For time money the demand is limited, because of the dull speculation in stocks. Borrowers, for this reason, do not care to renew engagements or to make contracts for new loans. There are no offerings for 60 or 90 days, because such loans will mature in June and July, when rates are usually at their lowest, but for longer dates the supply is sufficient to meet the demand, and it comes from trust companies and other institutions. The rate for four months is 4½ per cent, and for five or six months 5 per cent. Strictly first-class collateral is not so uniformly insisted upon, contracts being made with good security. Commercial paper shows a little more life and some of the strong city banks are buying, but the offerings are not large, first-class merchants preferring to keep their paper out of the market for the present. Rates are 5 to 5½ per cent for 60 to 90-day endorsed bills, 6@6½ for four months acceptances, and 6@7½ per cent for good single names having from four to six months to run."

Money is on the decline everywhere in Europe and our foreign exchange market was dull and firm last week with a gradual advance in the actual rates. The indications point to a further rise in exchange and the export of gold.

The report of the Agricultural department that there is only an average yield of 81 for winter wheat in the wheat-growing states, as against 94 for last year and 82 for 1888, materially changes the prospects in regard to that crop. The wet weather and frosts in March are responsible for this, and yet the result may prove that the yield will be greater than anticipated, for the plants were believed to be well rooted, and may have been able to withstand the damage better than now appears. With the general average at 81, some states show even lower averages—thus, Michigan only 67, California 71, and Indiana and Illinois each 75. On the other hand, some other large producing states have comparatively high averages, both Kansas and Ohio being reported 87. New York stands at 88 and Pennsylvania at 99. Besides the hope of improvement from good weather, it should be remembered that in some states, and particularly in Kansas, the area under wheat is much greater than last year.

"DR. CARLIN'S RECIPES" VERY CHEAP, TO CLOSE OUT.

Although several very large editions of "Old Dr. Carlin's Recipes" have been printed, the supply is nearly exhausted We have a remainder of only a few dozen on hand, the covers of which are slightly discolored, but the inside of the books is as good as ever.

We will send these by mail, postpaid, at *one dollar* each. The regular price is $2. It is a book of 600 pages, filled with valuable and proved recipes. The supply is very small, and they will be all gone within a few weeks. Order quickly! You will get the book at half price, and aside from slight discolorations of the cover, they are equal to new.

A WISCONSIN paper, speaking of the ridicule which the Democratic free trade press attempts to put upon the duty on pointees, gives the following facts, which are worth the consideration of farmers all over the West:

"A man who went to New York with a train load of potatoes recently said that if it had not been for the tariff on potatoes not one bushel could have been shipped east. As it was, a large lot of potatoes from Scotland had just arrived in New York, and caused quite a decline in the market. Including the tariff, it only costs 15 cents a bushel to bring potatoes from Scotland to New York, Boston or Baltimore, while it takes 27 cents from this section to New York. The bill introduced by Representative J. MCCORD to put a duty of 25 cents on potatoes would prove a great benefit to Wisconsin. In New York Wisconsin potatoes rank well, and bring higher figures than those from all states except Maine."

THE government of Portugal has invited proposals from an American ship-building firm for the construction of five new cruisers. This is quite noteworthy, especially as our free trade friends insist that we cannot build vessels equal to those built in England. The cold fact is that we can not only build war ships superior to anything else afloat, but it can surpass the rest of the world in mercantile vessels. It is to be remembered that, with competing foreign lines aided by heavy government subsidies and getting the cream of our freight and passenger traffic, there is little inducement to start up our merchant lines until our government becomes as friendly to its marine interests as are other nationalities to theirs When we adopt a like subsidy policy, we shall witness a revival of our merchant marine.

APROPOS of the provision of the McKinley tariff bill to put a protective duty on tin plate, and manufacture it at home, it is worthy of note that Mr. ROGERS, the manager of an enormous tin plate factory in Wales, declares that the result of its adoption will be to compel the British manufacturers to "reduce the cost of manufacture to meet the increase of duty." Here is an admission that the foreign manufacturer pays the duty; and it will not please the Democratic free traders in the United States to have him thus betray the fallacy of their cry that "the consumer pays the duty."

NEW HAVEN, Conn., has a suicide club, all the members of which have taken their own lives except the president, who has a year to live before, according to the rules of the organization, he must put out his own light. These clubs may be useful in disposing of the surplus population, only it is to be regretted that the community is not allowed to designate those who should sacrifice themselves. There are some men in every city who would become public benefactors if they would consent to take their own lives.

SENATOR HAWLEY'S paper, the Hartford *Courant*, remarks: "We think it may be assumed that any general pension bill rushed through the House on the whip and spur plan, without due deliberation, will receive specially careful scrutiny and consideration in the Senate. That is what the Senate is for." That is all right, Gen. HAWLEY; and if the Senate is wise, it will insist upon a service pension law.

IT is to be hoped that the sub-committee of the House committee on Elections, which will go to Arkansas, will be able to get at the real facts in regard to the assassination of CLAYTON, who was the contestant of Mr. CLIFTON BRECKINRIDGE'S seat in Congress. It is feared, however, that so much time has elapsed since the commission of the crime that the evidence has been "fixed."

IT is a growing sentiment among Washington *quid nunes* that BLAINE will be in the field for the Presidency in 1892.

DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN HONESTY.

The misapplication of state funds by Treasurer ARCHER, of Maryland, brings to mind the fact that there have been several Democratic state treasurers who have helped themselves to the money and securities entrusted to their keeping. A list of these defaulting state treasurers and the amounts of their shortage is as follows:

State Treasurer Churchill, of Arkansas, shortage	$ 80,522 01
State Treasurer Polk, of Tennessee, shortage	400,000 00
State Treasurer Vincent, of Alabama, shortage	243,148 94
State Treasurer Tate, of Kentucky, shortage	247,028 50
State Treasurer Burke, of Louisiana, shortage	827,000 00
State Treasurer Nolan, of Missouri, shortage	32,445 00
State Treasurer Heidingway, of Mississippi, shortage	815,000 00
State Treasurer Archer, of Maryland, shortage	200,000 00
Total	$2,345,144 45

An examination of this last will show that these Democratic defalcations have all occurred in states where political frauds have been most flagrant. If there is no respect for the rights of individuals the moral sense of the community becomes blunted and the rights of the state are not considered.

It will be remembered that when the Republican party in 1885 yielded up its power after twenty-four years of uninterrupted control over the affairs of the government, the Democrats asserted that when they got at the books they would be sure to discover all sorts of dishonesty. In fact, this was one of their great campaign cries; and the then vice presidential democratic candidate was especially vehement in his charges of fraud upon the treasury by the Republicans. It will also be remembered that when the books were examined, the most critical search could only discover a shortage of two cents, and even this sum it was afterwards found could not have been stolen.

The contrast between Republican and Democratic conduct of funds, state and national, is very great. The different results are due to the different standards of honesty. A free ballot and a fair count are essential to honesty of administration of state as well as national affairs.

SILVER LEGISLATION.

There is likely to be a great deal of discussion in both branches of Congress on the silver question, but the drift of opinion among Senators and Representatives is so strongly in favor of an enlargement of the use of silver in our coinage that it is almost a certainty that a silver bill will become a law at this session.

It is not, however, so easy to predict what shape the bill will finally take. The New York *Herald*, however, drops into prophecy, and declares the following things to be reasonably certain:

I. That both Houses could be carried for free coinage if it were not that the free coinage men dread and mean to avoid a veto. They believe that a free coinage bill would be vetoed, and they do not believe that such a bill could be passed over a veto.

II. But they mean to come as near to a veto—and avoid it—as possible.

III. The bill which will be passed and sent to the President will not, therefore, be a free coinage bill.

IV. It will not be the Senate proposition to coin forty-five millions a year, because this does not find enough favor in the House.

V. It will not be the Windom bill pure and simple.

VI. The bill which will go to the President after more or less debate will require the treasury to receive silver bullion on deposit at the market price of the day of deposit and issue notes against it at that rate, and will require the treasury to redeem these silver bullion notes in "lawful money."

VII. That is to say, if a citizen deposits one hundred dollars' worth of silver bullion at the market price he will receive one hundred dollars in notes, and for these notes, if he wishes, the treasury will give him one hundred silver dollars.

While this would not be free coinage, it would amount to practically the same thing, as far as the currency is concerned, and that is what the friends of silver want—an increase in the circulating medium. It would preclude the silver mines from sending silver to the mint and getting every 75 cents' worth made into a silver dollar, thus giving them a profit of 25 cents on each dollar coined. Practically it would give unlimited coinage; and all silver men, outside of those directly interested in the mines, will probably be perfectly satisfied with this.

THAT "HOME MARKET."

There is nothing so excites the average free trader as any mention of the "home market." It generally sends him off on a long tirade, designed to show that the home market is valueless, and that the only course to national prosperity is by seeking foreign trade, in competition with all other nations. Let us look a little at this matter. It is a conservative estimate that the census this year will show that we are producing, of all agricultural products of every nature, at total of not less than $14,000,000,000 worth annually, of which we export about $700,000,000 worth, or about 5 per cent—the remaining 95 per cent being required by the despised "home market." It will also show that the annual value of our mining and manufactured products is fully $7,000,000,000, of which only about 2 per cent are exported, the remaining 98 per cent being absorbed in the home market.

With the home market thus absorbing from 95 to 98 per cent of all our products, the free traders' theory is that it shall be sacrificed in order to increase our foreign trade. The manufacturers of Great Britain entertain the highest opinion of our home market. They want to share it, and they are watching the free trade crusade here with anxious eyes, in the hope that the tariff will be broken down, and they be enabled to sell goods to the value of hundreds of millions of dollars annually more than they do now. Of course that means that just that much less will be manufactured here; and the free traders are laboring to take from our own industries these many millions annually, in return offering only the doubtful prospect of increased exports, which we can only obtain by meeting prices of competitors whose goods are produced by underpaid labor, with the laboring men ground down to the social status of paupers.

To drop the rich certainty for the doubtful increase of foreign trade would be to enact in earnest the fable of the dog which dropped the meat in his mouth to catch at its shadow in the stream. There is no need to cut the throats of our industries in order to enlarge our foreign trade. That is not the only way to accomplish it. The adoption of the system of aiding a merchant marine which is employed by England, by France, and by other countries, will accomplish the desired end and still preserve the vast home market for ourselves.

THE New York *Evening Post* speaks of "the recklessness of the pension demagogues in Congress." The men who advocate justice to those who fought for this country are not demagogues. They know that had it not been for the patriotism and the valor of the ex-Union soldiers, there would have been an end to the Republic. Every man who fought in the Union army is entitled to a pension, and he will get it, notwithstanding the opposition of the *Post*, its mugwump associates and its Democratic colleagues.

THE New York *Tribune* was 50 years old on April 10, and justly feels proud of the lusty vigor with which it enters on its second half-century. May its shadow never grow less!

WRITE POSTAL CARDS!

Read the Pension article, headed "Once More," on the 5th page of this issue, and write postal cards as directed therein, *at once;* get all your friends who favor service pensions to do so also, and do it as quickly as you can. Keep them pouring in on Congress for ten days or two weeks!

PASS A SERVICE BILL.

The feeling is so strong in Congress that a general pension bill of some sort will be passed within a few weeks that the pension committees of both houses are laying aside all private bills to pension widows and other individual claimants, unless of the utmost urgency, as a general bill will provide for them without the need of a special measure. There is considerable divergence of opinion as to the character of the measure that will be passed. Chairman MORRILL, of the Pension committee, seems opposed to a general service pension, and favors the dependent bill with a clause added putting all soldiers on the roll at and after the age of 62. In regard to the effort to "railroad" this measure through on Monday, April 7, he is reported as saying:

"If we cannot pass the bill under a suspension of the rules, it will fail for 20 years. All general pension bills have been passed by suspending the rules. I am inclined to think the bill will become a law, and yet it may fail by indirection. The committee on invalid pensions is privileged, and can call its bills up at any time, but we can only hope to pass this bill under a suspension of the rules, when we may limit the debate and keep out amendments. Friends as well as enemies of the bill would amend it to death if we attempted to push it except under a suspension of the rules."

Mr. MORRILL is, to say the least, disingenuous. He knows—none better—that the effort to substitute the House pension bill (the "Morrill bill") for the Senate dependent bill, and "railroad" it through, was to prevent the passage of a general service pension bill. The scheme failed and we are glad of it. We are not opposed to the dependent bill save on the ground that it does not go far enough. The greater always includes the less; and a general service bill, giving a pension to every honorably discharged soldier of the rebellion, will include every man or widow who would be a beneficiary under the dependent bill, besides a large class who are outside its provisions.

Mr. MORRILL also knows that the soldiers themselves, even his own constituents, are opposed to the "dependent" bill. The change of the word "dependent" to "disability" will not remove that objection. It is not the word that is objected to, but the idea involved therein. No matter what periphrasis may be used, the fact remains that a soldier would have to show his inability to support himself, his dependence upon public or private charity before he could avail himself of its provisions, unless he were 62 years old or over; and no soldier feels like being compelled to confess himself a pauper before he can obtain what is his right.

There is a clear majority in the House favorable to a general service pension measure. Pass such a bill, gentlemen of the House, and pass it at once; and if it is defeated, let the Senate accept the responsibility. In that case the soldiers will accept the Morrill bill as a substitute, and only then. They want to know where the responsibility lies for the defeat, if defeat must come.

Mr. MORRILL is disingenuous, too, in assuming that a pension measure can only pass by railroading. A caucus of Republican members can be held, and decide on the kind of bill to pass; and this will avoid the danger he professes to fear of the bill being loaded down with amendments. In sober truth, the amendments Mr. MORRILL fears are those looking to a general service pension. THE BLADE can assure him that service pension must come to a vote at this session if he does not wish the next House to be Democratic. That is the long and short of the matter.

GET A WATCH FREE!

The attention of all readers is directed to the offer on the Trenton watch, in the Publishers' Department, fifth page. It is an excellent watch, and none have so far been returned under our warranty. It is the very best cheap watch in the market. We have several thousands of these watches, which we bought to give away to club raisers. To any one sending us a club of ten subscribers to the Weekly BLADE, and $10, we will send one of these watches free. We did not buy them to sell, but if any subscriber wishes one, we will send him the Weekly BLADE one year, and a Trenton watch, for $5. The watch retails in the jewelry stores at $3. Get up a club; you can earn yourself a good watch in a few hours.

THE announcement of the serious illness of Gen. J. C. FREMONT will be received with deep regret throughout the country. Gen. FREMONT at one time occupied a large share of public attention and performed valuable service both in the army and as a civilian. His intrepid explorations in the Rocky mountains gained for him the soubriquet of the Pathfinder, and it will be remembered that he was the first Presidential candidate of the Republican party. Congress should hasten to pass the bill placing Gen. FREMONT on the retired list of the army that the old hero may learn that republics are not ungrateful.

THE "Tillman movement" in South Carolina—which is a rebellion of the Democratic planters of the state against the Bourbon ring which has intrenched itself in power in that state—is gaining strength steadily, and becoming a source of alarm to the ruling faction. The systematic defiance of law and constitution brought its inevitable result—a grasping of the power so unworthily attained by a set of demagogues; and the planters are now protesting against the extravagance and corruption of the state of things for which they are themselves primarily responsible.

ONCE MORE

Prepare Your Postal Cards for Congress!

Appeal for a SERVICE PENSION Measure

Instead of the Pauper "DEPENDENT" Bill.

It Must Certainly Be One or the Other.

1.—How The Matter Stands.

Pension matters in Congress stand as follows: The Senate has passed the "dependent" pension bill, which gives a pension to all veterans incapacitated from labor, now dependent on their own resources; a pension to every widow of a veteran during her life, and to each minor child below 18 years; also to dependent fathers and mothers, *now* dependent.

This bill has been amended in the House so as to make age over 62 years a disability; that is, it puts on the pension rolls *all* soldiers who are now 62 years old, and the others as fast as they reach that age.

An endeavor was made on Monday, April 7, to take up this bill under a suspension of the rules, and pass it. This would prevent the offering of any amendments, and that is why it was done. It was merely to keep an amendment granting service pensions from being offered, adopted and passed. The motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill failed; but the bill is not defeated, and can be reported at any time to the House for action.

2.—Why Service Pension is Better.

Now, the dependent bill, with the House amendment, is good as far as it goes; and were it impossible to obtain more, we should heartily and entirely favor it. But we believe a service pension bill can be passed, and that would include all persons benefited by the dependent bill, and many others; and a veteran would then not have to show that he is unable to support himself, and is therefore practically a pauper, dependent on public or private aid. Hence we favor the greater measure, the service pension bill, as against the less measure, the dependent pension bill.

What is a "service pension?" A pension given a soldier because of his *service*, not because of his disability or dependence. The service pension bill will give to every honorably discharged soldier and sailor a pension. Hence we favor it.

3.—When Will It Come Up?

An effort may be again made on next Monday—April 21—to take up the dependent bill as amended by the House and pass it under a suspension of the rules. We do not think it will succeed. We think too many members of the House prefer a service pension bill. But the matter can not be long delayed, and we are inclined to believe that it will come up before the tariff debate begins.

4.—The Need of Haste.

The chairman of the House committee on Invalid Pensions, Mr. MORRILL, of Kansas, favors the dependent bill with the 62-year age limit, and is opposed to a service pension bill. He and his fellow-members of that committee must be made to understand there is an overwhelming public sentiment in favor of service pensions as against the dependent bill.

The House must also be brought to understand that the dependent bill by no means satisfies the veterans, and that nothing short of a service pension will do so.

The Senate must be made to understand that its bill was not what was asked for, not what was expected, and that it must change front and favor service pensions.

All this must be done *at once*, before the dependent bill is passed by the House, as it will facilitate matters very much if that body shall pass a service pension bill as a substitute for the dependent bill, and send it to the Senate for its concurrence. Haste is necessary.

5.—Postal Cards Once More!

The postal cards sent by THE BLADE readers gave the cause of service pensions a powerful impetus. We want to give it a still stronger one. Hence we call on every one who believes that a service pension bill shall be passed at this session of Congress to aid us by sending postal cards once more, as detailed further on.

6.—It is Either "Service Pension" or the "Dependent" Bill.

It is certain that no one bill yet presented, as an entirety, will become a law. The bill which passes will certainly be a sort of compromise measure. Hence we ask you simply to urge the passage of a service pension bill, without wasting time in specifying any particular bill.

Furthermore, if everybody asks exactly the same thing in the same way, the appeal will have vastly more force than if part ask for the Ingalls-Cheadle bill, part for the Boothman bill, and part for something else.

Hence, we want to mass every one into solid phalanx to ask for just the one thing—a service pension bill. Leave the details to Congress. The recognition of the principle of giving a pension to every honorably discharged soldier is the one thing to be battled for.

7.—What to Do.

We ask every reader of THE BLADE, every friend of the soldier, whether he be Democrat or Republican, to take three postal cards. Address the first one to the Representative in Congress from your district, and make it read as follows, filling the blanks properly:

Hon. ——————:, ——, April —, 1890.

As a voter of your district, I ask your vote in favor of a service pension bill, at this session of Congress, for the reasons given in the article, "A Plea for Service Pensions," in the Toledo BLADE of April 24, which will be sent you. Respectfully yours, ——————

Sign it, and then address it to your Representative as follows:

Hon. ——————,
House of Representatives,
Washington,
D. C.

Take the second card and write as follows, filling up the blanks properly:

Hon. ——————:, ——, April —, 1890.

As a citizen and voter of your state, I ask your vote in favor of a service pension bill at this session, for the reasons given in the article, "A Plea for Service Pensions," in the Toledo BLADE of April 24, which will be sent you. Respectfully yours, ——————

Sign it and address it to one of the two Senators from your state, as follows:

Hon. ——————,
U. S. Senate,
Washington,
D. C.

Then take the third card, and write as follows, filling the blanks properly:

——————, ——, April —, 1890.

House Pension Committee:

GENTLEMEN:—I respectfully petition you to report a general service pension bill, instead of the Senate dependent bill, for reasons given in "A Plea for Service Pensions," in the Toledo BLADE of April 24, which will be sent you. Respectfully yours, ——————

Then address this card as follows:

HON. E. N. MORRILL,
Chairman House Pensions Committee,
Washington,
D. C.

8.—What Else to Do.

All we are seeking to do is to bring as tremendous a pressure as possible upon Congress in favor of service pensions. We want to mass our 100,000 soldier readers in solid phalanx, asking for one thing. In order that this may be done, we beg that every one will use the forms given above in writing the cards. In union is strength! Let all unite in asking for the one thing possible, and in one way."

Do not content yourself with writing your three cards, but ask every soldier and every friend of the soldier, whether he takes THE BLADE or not, to do the same thing; get every member of your G. A. R. post to write these cards; and let us have such a rousing demand on Congress that we *must* be heard!

Get in your cards as quickly as you can—the sooner the better! Get them all in inside of two weeks, and get as many as possible in the mails *at once*. Time is precious in this matter. Our information from Washington is that early action is probable. Hence don't delay; but write and mail your own at once, and then get your friends and neighbors to do so as rapidly as you can. Take two weeks for the work, and let it be well done.

9.—What We Shall Say.

In order that every one may know the reasons we shall give for asking Congress to pass a service pension bill, we give below the points that we shall include in the "Plea for Service Pensions" in THE BLADE of next week—April 24:

1.—That the dependent bill is not desired by the veterans themselves, even by those who would receive pensions under it, because it virtually compels them to declare themselves paupers in order to avail themselves of its provisions;

2.—That service pensions have been granted the survivors of all our previous great wars, and should be to the soldiers of the rebellion;

3.—That twenty-five years have elapsed since the rebellion closed, and that the fulness of time has come for keeping the promises and pledges of party platforms and politicians to the soldiers;

4. That the government has kept its faith with the men who furnished the money to carry on the war, and now it must do the same with the men who fought its battles;

5. That, though service pension will be costly, it will not be beyond the means of the government. We shall give estimates of its cost, based on the figures furnished the House pensions committee by the War department.

6. And then demand that the House shall pass a service pension bill, in response to the wishes of the people, instead of the Senate dependent bill, which was not asked for by the veterans themselves.

There is nothing in this that every one can not heartily endorse, even the dependent themselves; for the service pension bill will do as much for them as will the dependent bill, while not requiring them to prove themselves paupers in order to receive its benefits.

10.—Be Quick!

Again we appeal to every one to send cards, to send them quickly, and to urge every voter in the country who favors service pension to send them also. THE BLADE wants to do all it can for the service pension cause, and asks the aid of every one in that behalf.

WHAT THE BOYS SAY

ABOUT THE PENSION QUESTION.

Another Batch of Letters to the Blade on This All-Important Matter.

A NUMBER of extracts from soldiers' letters upon the pension question are given below, in continuation of those which have been published for a number of weeks past. They all breathe the same spirit, and only add cumulative evidence to the universality of the demand for a service pension instead of any partial and insufficient measure, such as the dependent bill.

Justice, Comrades!

IOWA, ILL.—Comrades, let us give the government some credit for what it has done for us soldiers. I have read many of the soldiers' letters claiming that they only get $13 per month, in depreciated currency. Is this true? In 1861 we got $13 per month, $3 in clothing per month and $100 bounty, which makes near $19 per month. The first pay we got in 1861 was the same as gold. In 1862 the government paid $200 bounty, making some $22 per month with a little depreciation in the currency, and about the same in 1863. In 1864 the government paid from $100 to $400 bounty, and many of those that enlisted in 1861 re-enlisted and got the $400 bounty and $16 per month. The most of them served less than two years, making, what they received from the government, from $35 to $40 per month, and many that enlisted in 1865 got from $50 to $100 per month, the war coming to a close soon after they enlisted. In 1864 and '65 the currency was not depreciated so much but that the increase of bounty made our pay still the same as gold, or some ahead of gold. Then we must give the government credit for paying some $1,000,000,000 for pensions, and that it would have paid a great deal more if it were not for the Democratic party, that some of the soldiers have threatened to vote for the next time if the government does not do what they want it to do. Now, did it ever occur to you, that if this same Democratic party had its way we would not have got one dollar of pensions yet?—A. H., Co. D, 18th U. S. Inf.

Don't Want the Dependent Bill.

DELL, ORE.—While the great majority of ex-soldiers are like myself, poor and needy, I have failed to converse with one yet who likes the Senate dependent bill. I am satisfied not one in a hundred would avail themselves of its benefits were it to become a law.

The per diem service pension bill is the least thing the present Fifty-first Congress ought to think of asking the veterans to accept. If something like that, and the repeal of the limitation of arrears act, is not passed by this Congress, we shall see if some of them are not elected to stay at home when their case comes up for action before the people at the next election.—J. S. S., Co. K, 22d Iowa.

Why He Favors Service Pension.

RIVER FALLS, WIS.—I do not like the dependent bill. The conditions that would likely be attached to the bill would subject the applicant to a condition of absolute pauperism, which no respectable soldier would like to assume, consequently I am in favor of service pension, giving every old soldier the full amount in par money for the length of time he served, which is his just dues; then his neighbors can not call him a pauper.—D. W.

A Strong Appeal.

HENDERSONVILLE, MICH.—I am in favor of service pension, not a dependent one. We are not paupers nor beggars, are only demanding our rights and ought to be sufficient to understand it. The bondholders have had their pay in full—why should we not have ours? Less red tape and more common sense and justice is what we need. There was no quibbling over small matters when we enlisted, why should there be now?—W. W., Co. D, 21st Mich.

Won't be Deceived.

AVA, ILL.—We are watching Congressmen very closely and if there are no beneficial laws passed, many of them will step down and out at the next election; and at the next general election the government will go wholly into other hands. You say to some one, "You cannot expect anything good from the Democratic party." True, we would not expect anything, and therefore would not be deceived.—J. C., Co. A, 80th Ill.

What He Wants.

TEXARKANA, TEX.—The old soldier should have the difference between gold and greenbacks, a less rigid law as to the soldiers' last date, when so many comrades are dead, especially when, as in my own case, he would not go to a hospital, and has no hospital record. A service pension should be granted to all, with a disability pension to the disabled.—W. R., Co. D, 85th Ill.

A Correct Idea.

BEATRICE, NEB.—My idea about pensions is, that any man who gave one or more years of the best of his life, when that service was most needed, and those at home were making money, is entitled to a pension, not a charity, but justice.—H. C. W., Co. F, 16th Wis.

Good Advice.

PORTERVILLE, KAN.—BOYS, let us stick to THE BLADE, because it is our friend; and let us give Congress to understand that we must have our just dues, and at the present session of Congress.—S. W. M., Co. G, 4th Iowa Cav.

A Case in Point.

GOLIGHTLY, ALA.—I am now but 45, but am so broken down in health that I am not able to do one-half a day's work. Am drawing no pension, although I know my disabilities are due to my service.—A. J. B.

Condensed Opinions.

SMYRNA, O.—A pension to every soldier, or defeat at the polls.—G. W. G.

LIMA, ILL.—It is the duty of our party to pension every soldier.—A. B. F.

MILAN, MICH.—I would like to see a service pension bill pass.—C. E., 7th Mich.

VICTORY, WIS.—I think every honorably discharged soldier should receive a pension.—F. B.

MONTICELLO, ILL.—My motto is "fair play." Give us a service pension.—B. F. A., Co. C, 107th Ill.

PARK PLACE, ARK.—I think the service pension bill is the thing to meet the soldiers' needs.—A. F.

——: If Congress is going to do anything for us let them do it now, or some of them will be left.—J. M.

GARFIELD, MD.—I am decisively in favor of the per diem service and dependent pension bill.—G. L. Co. C, 87th Pa.

ERIEVILLE, N. Y.—I am in favor of the per diem pension bill and arrearages for all soldiers.—C. M. B., Co. I, 114th N. Y.

GOLIGHTLY, ALA.—If the government is going to do anything for the soldiers, it is time.—J. L. A., Co. H., 72d Ind. Mtd. Inf.

IOWA CITY.—I think it is time the government was doing something more for the old soldier.—W. P. W., Co. E, 25th Iowa.

EVERTON, MO.—A service pension to all who have an honorable discharge is the best, all things considered.—W. H., Co. C, 5th Kan. Cav.

DELAND, FLA.:—God helps them that helps themselves. So let us help ourselves and vote for those men that work for us.—J. L., Co. F., 7th Minn.

ZONA, W. VA.:—I am decidedly in favor of a service pension for all old soldiers of the war. The invalid bill savors too much of pauperism.—S. S. H., Co. G., 9th W. Va.

——, ——.—Comrades, put your shoulders to the wheel and help THE BLADE to wake up Uncle Sam and his officers as the war waked the soldiers in 1861 to '65.—BATTERY F.

PORTAGE, MICH.—Leave the tariff where it is, give the soldiers their just dues, and we will make better times and put the idle money in circulation.—D. H., Co. C, 6th Mich. H. A.

ROCKVALE, —:—I don't get any pension, but I left some of my blood on the Tennessee soil. But I was bound to stay with my regiment, and so I can't show up any hospital record.—A. T. W.

BERGER, KAN.—Let the government we saved and made rich give us part of her wealth in a service pension. I will not vote for a man that is not in favor of it, if I know it.—J. B., Co. I, 79th Ill.

CAMERON, W. VA.—Now, boys, let us blow the pension bugle; let not the sound thereof die in the ears of our legislators until a general service pension bill is passed.—S. W. W., Co. G, 17th W. Va.

——:—I think that those who went to save the union should all have pensions; for if it had not been for the boys of the North, and the Republican party, we would have no United States.—T. D. A.

SEVENTY-SIX, MO.—I want to see every man that ever fired a musket in the service of the United States draw a pension; those that did fighting as well as those who lay in the hospitals.—F. C.

GRAVITY, IOWA.—Boom the service pension bill! That comes nearest justice too all old soldiers of any thing yet suggested. No dependent pension bill in ours as western soldiers.—S. H. W.

FORESMAN, —:—A country that boasts of its wealth exceeding the wealth of the whole world ought not to allow any of its soldiers to go to the poor house. Shame on such a government.—L. S. J., Co. A, 3rd N. Y. Cav.

DOWLING, O.—The present Congress is the one that we look to for help. They promised it to us—when we sent them there—and we hope they will make their pledge to the soldiers good.—W. W. B., one of Mitchell's raiders.

ALPHA, KAN.—If there is not something done, this is the last Republican President that will set in the Presidential chair. We are tired of promises, and we don't propose to be fooled any longer by them.—B. D. R., Co. K, 1st Iowa Cav.

ELLENSBURG, WASH.—I am so disabled that I would be entitled to a pension under the dependent bill, but I would be ashamed to take a pension under that, and it would be a disgrace for Congress to pass such a bill. A service pension would be a just and an honorable bill.—J. H. S.

OSWEGO, ILL.—This great country owes its very existence to the soldiers.

"In times of war, and not before,
God and the soldier we adore;
But when in peace all things are righted,
God is forgotten, the soldier slighted."

—T. A., Co. C, 7th Ill.

FRONTIER, MICH.—I am in favor of a service pension for every soldier (not getting a pension) of $12 per month after he is 50 years old, and the depreciation made up, also interest, on this deficiency (or debt) from date up to the present time. Then the soldier shall have had his just dues, and "Uncle Sam" will be square with him.—G. W. Y.

BRIDGETON, N. Y.—The boys in blue are watching the Congress and President they sent to Washington and noting every action to see if they are going to fulfill the promises made to them, and there are many will bid good-bye to the old Republican party if they turn the cold shoulder to us again after securing our votes.—O. M. A., 151st N. Y.

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Watch these columns 2 or 3 weeks for a Voice from New York

PORTRAIT OF SLATER. From a Photograph.

A VOICE from Ala. "I am not a farm for $12 a month. I am now selling your famous albums, and making over $200 a month. Every body wants one." Harry Slater, Birmingham, Ala.

On account of a forced manufacturer's sale I can offer 10 yers old. I was at work on **ten dollar Photograph Albums** are to be sold to the people for $2 each Roundin Royal Crimson Silk Velvet Plush, Charmingly decorated. Inside. Embellishment Albums in the world. Largest Size. Greatest bargains ever known. Agents wanted. Liberal terms. Big money for agents. Any one can become a successful agent. Sells itself on sight—little or no talking necessary. Wherever shown, every one wants to purchase. Agents take hundreds and thousands of orders with rapidity never before known. Great profits await every worker. Agents are making fortunes. Ladies make as much as men. You, reader, can do as well as any one. Full information and terms free, together with particulars and terms for our Family Bibles, Books and Periodicals. Better write us at once and see for yourself. After you know all, should you conclude to go no further, why no harm is done. Address, ALLEN & CO., Augusta, Maine.

THE BLADE POSTAL CARDS.

How the People in One Illinois Town Handled the Matter.

Elizabeth, Ill., Bell, April 10.

On March 21, 1890, there was mailed to Hon. Shelby M. Cullom and Hon. R. R. Hitt, twenty-five postal cards to each Honorable, signed by ex-soldiers and citizens of Elizabeth. The following is a copy of the cards:

ELIZABETH, Ill., March 21, 1890.

Hon. R. R. Hitt and S. M. Cullom.

Please read the "Open Letter to the Fifty-first Congress," on page 5 of the Toledo Weekly BLADE of April 3, which will reach you on that date. The views there are endorsed by me; and I, as a voter and one of your constituents, ask your influence in obtaining the passage of a service pension bill at the present session of Congress. Respectfully,

The following letter was received to-day from R. R. Hitt:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U. S., }
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 1, 1890. }

Messrs. A. H. Weir, W. Hutton, J. C. McKenzie and others, Elizabeth, Ill.:

Gentlemen—Postals of date, March 21, from you and the following named ex-soldiers and citizens: J. H. Bateman, Thomas B. Bray, C. Shaw, N. Johns, B. H. Dalis, R. Bowley, C. Ebp, I. Wilcox, J. G. McCoy, H. H. Johnson, T. R. Goldthorp, R. H. Russell, B. Dittmer, Dr. R. H. Stafford, W. J. Barton, H. Ashmore, J. A. Williams, J. W. Sherard, L. Howarth, A. Morris, R. Scott, jr., and M. Wishen, referring to the circular letter in the Toledo BLADE in support of the service pension bill, are at hand, which agree in the main with the view taken by the soldiers that I hear from elsewhere in my district; and I hope to see a service pension bill passed by this Congress. The support of such a measure has increased with the discussion since the opening of this session, and is strengthened by expressions from the country, which reach Congress from every side.

I am, gentlemen, very truly yours,
R. R. HITT.

PENSION DEBATE.

The Way the Democrats Talk in the House on Pensions.

If loyal members of the Democratic party are honest with themselves and watch carefully the movements of some of their brother politicians in Congress, there must be a continual feeling of shame in their breasts; they must have a hard time persuading themselves that their place is not in the ranks of Republicanism. Early last week two Democrats, who are men of influence in Michigan, came down here on a visit. Neither of them had ever voted any other than the Democratic ticket but both of them went to the front when Abraham Lincoln called for men to subdue the rebellion and they did their share of the subduing business. Last Friday night they strolled up to the House of Representatives, to watch that body enact pension legislation—for Friday evenings are invariably set apart for such business—and when I saw them yesterday they assured me most solemnly that they would never again, under any circumstances, vote for a Democratic candidate. The cause for this change of heart was the conduct of Democratic members at that night session; that conduct was disgraceful beyond expression. The most vigorous language would fail to adequately condemn the actions of such low, worthless characters as Enloe of Tennessee, and Flower of New York. The former was too near the cradle for the Confederacy to make any use of him during the rebellion, but it is using him now to the utmost extent; the latter was a blatant copperhead. For his behavior on Friday evening, Enloe had the shadow of an excuse; Flower had none. Enloe wanted to get through an omnibus claim bill, set up by more than three hundred Tennesseans for damages alleged to have been done their property by Union soldiers. You unanimity the House thought it would be better to consider these terms on their individual merits, and this angered the shallow-pated representative to such an extent that he decided to fight pension bills to the bitter end. He prevented the passage of a single measure, and in all probability will endeavor to do so again.

The strongest speech of the evening in opposition to the Democratic position was made by Representative Boo hman, of Ohio, who paid a great deal of attention to the remarks made by Stone, of Missouri, on the Friday evening previous. Quoting from that rebel speech (than which none will be more regretted by the Democratic party) he recited the following, referring to the excerpt as the keystone of a cruel and barbarous speech. The words of Stone should be read by every Union veteran and every man who loves his country:

"Mr. Speaker, the generosity shown by the people of the United States to those who have served in their armies is unexampled in the annals of mankind. It is not only without a parallel, but there is nothing in history which approaches it.

"Still the cry is for more. There is a class of people in this country dominating one of our great political parties who are interested in having high taxation. In order to maintain high taxation, that there may be an excuse for it, they are forced to create occasion for large expenditures. They found the ex-soldiers of the country in condition to be approached.

"The Grand Army of the Republic had been organized for social and benevolent purposes, and hundreds of thousands of men who had borne our arms were connected with it. Here was an opportunity. They were approached by cunning artifice and misled by deceptive sophistry. Cautiously and gradually the poison of selfish desire has been breathed upon this benevolent organization until it has become permeated by it. They have been led step by step to make this demand and that, growing bolder and more aggressive from year to year, until the Grand Army of the Republic has degenerated into a great military-political organization, whose chief object now seems to be to extort pensions from the government.

"The plutocrat has locked his hands with the pretorian. One seeks exorbitant taxation in order that monopoly may be created or maintained and tribute wrung from the hand of industry; the other desires exorbitant taxation in order that redundant revenues may be raised for gratuitous distribution."

By the time Boothman had concluded reading the infamous assertion he was at white heat, and then addressing the chair, he said:

"Who were the pretorians with whom and to whom he likens the Union soldier? They were pagan Roman soldiers, first consisting of ten cohorts of a thousand men each, afterwards increased to sixteen cohorts. They served from twelve to sixteen years. They were given double pay while in service, and a bonus of $800 of our money when discharged. They were each of the rank of centurions while serving. That is the equal of a captain in our service. They were the paid, hired, personal guards of the Roman emperors. Their duty was to do anything their masters commanded. They were in the broadest sense soldiers of fortune. What wonder they earned from historians, as they have received, the designation of an insolent and rapacious soldiery, fond of substantial gratification and careless how they got them?

"But what do we hear? A member of the American Congress, in this enlightened day, and in the presence of the fact that when the Union soldier had suppressed the rebellion, when he had but to demand in order to receive all things in the gift of his country; when, if his demand had been refused, he had the power to compel acquiescence; when, instead of demanding, he turned over his arms to his Government and in a day melted into the ranks of citizenship, took up the threads of his broken life and wasted opportunities, accepted his depreciated pittance of pay, bent his head in obeisance to the laws of his country, defer

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON . . . . EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

SUGGESTIVE STORIES,

Looks, Hints and Innuendoes—Every Woman Should Resent Them When Given in Her Presence.

MRS. AMELIA E. BARR writes thus in the current number of the *North American Review*:

"Purity of speech is as much to purity of action as kind and gentle speech is to peace and good will; and never is a woman so undignified and so unlovely as when uttering words of doubtful propriety. There may be even no question of virtue or vice in such talk; but it takes the edge off of modesty, and she has no cause of offence if, after them, men, approach her with that air of easy insolence which they readily fall into with a woman who, having ceased to respect herself, has also ceased to respect them."

I do not quite agree with the sentiment conveyed in the last few words of the above paragraph, although as a whole it is emphatically true. I think there are both girls and women who, in a sort of reckless daring, will encroach upon the borders of immorality in their speech with men, and yet would instantly resent anything like personal familiarity. They take a sort of pleasure in shocking or surprising listeners by the way in which they can draw near to the edge of the precipice, while firmly maintaining their footing. Men, they imagine, admire women who are not afraid of amusing and of being amused by a possible funny side of the immoralities of life. Goody-goody women, they believe, are not half as much to the masculine taste; they do not seek such society with near the avidity which they evince for that of the girls whose conversation is apt to have a slightly wicked flavor. This is the way they reason within themselves, never realizing that the strength of resistance of which they are proud, is not believed in by the men whom they thus entertain; that to the masculine thought their purity is smirched to the same degree in which they indulge in questionable conversation. Without absolutely losing their own self-respect, they yet lose the respect of those whose admiration they are trying to win. And in nine cases out of ten they find that this is true to their own bitter regret, bitter unless the handling of soot has darkened their own pure womanly intuitions, so that they do not care.

DOES NOT APPLY.

The old French proverb, meaning "Evil to him who evil thinks" does not apply to immoral conversation — needless talk about subjects which should have no place in family social life. Indelicate hints and innuendoes which are current among men, no woman can afford to use with the idea that the hearer need make no application of them unless they choose.

Nor can reputable women safely try "to compass notoriety," as Mrs. Barr has it, by saying startling things, "discussing characters they would consider it a defilement to know," receiving confidences that ought to bring the blush of shame to their cheeks, considering that thus they are adding to their popularity.

Unfortunately, these things are growing more and more common, and they are not confined to those with experience in the world's ways. Fair young girls who seem the very incarnation of innocence will speak openly and frankly of what should be neither upon their tongues nor in their thoughts. They fear to be considered "slow" if reserved and delicate.

Ah, what a mistake!

There is an old saying couched in the plain Anglo-Saxon of years agone, running in this wise: "He must have a long spoon that must eat with the devil." Its meaning is very plain. There is no evil under the sun that can be needlessly approached and handled without defilement. The ear cannot be prostituted without self-debasement, no matter how much momentary amusement may be afforded.

She is a wise girl or woman who will refuse to listen to vulgar stories, even though their wit be undoubted.

She is the wiser who never, by word or look, invites looks or words that have an impure or questionable meaning.

"You would make prudes of us," says some young woman who reads this. "These things are; why should we be afraid to speak of them?"

Because "things are," is no reason why you should bring them into your life.

"It is easy to admire that conversational frankness that calls a spade a spade," says Mrs. Barr, "but spades need not be put into garbage heaps." And this is just what people do who indulge for entertainment, in these immbralities in conversation.

NO NEED OF EITHER.

It is better to be "prudish" than to go too far the other way, but there is no need of that. Any girl who listens to the voice of her own innocent womanhood will be safe, nor will she ever be unduly alarmed. It is not the pure of heart who are prudes. Excessive squeamishness is often the result of too much knowledge, but there is no fear of one being taken for the other.

The gist of the whole matter is here. This is essentially a free-and-easy generation, and there is danger that liberty in social matters, as well as in other ways, may degenerate into license. One of the most potent factors in bringing this about is the freedom in conversation of which I am speaking. There may be no question of wrong doing in the matter, but no one can be dragged through the mire without soiling the purity of their garments. Mothers who have the well being of their daughters at heart will hold them aloof from hearing unsavory stories that comparatively good women will sometimes repeat. Young girls who desire to keep themselves clean and sweet morally will refuse to listen to what will bring the blush of shame to their cheeks. And wise young men will be chary of taking for a wife that maiden who allows any questionable allusions in her presence without showing her displeasure.

Another thing which has added to the looseness that has grown up in society in this direction is the erotic literature of the day. Realistic, these books are called, but it is a realism that leads to vice. That they are sometimes written marvelously well, only adds to the intensity of the evil which they do. Disgust would take the place of pleasure were the work less skillfully accomplished. Stealthily they undermine the morals, by their seductive representations of immorality under the guise of sentiment, and often these same books are the theme of conversation at social gatherings, the subject of newspaper notices, the topic of discussion by young men and maidens, while not to have read them would argue oneself not "up" in the current literature of the day.

And thus the work goes on.

To the pure in heart all things are pure. True, indeed, but there is no purity that may not be sullied; there is no soul whose whiteness may not be shadowed, and the soiling and the shadow are always visible in outward expression. By speech and in action, through all unwittingly, the story of the inner self is told, and told with unerring truth.

Emily S. Bouton.

FILLING IN SKELETONS.

A most amusing entertainment for a little social gathering is the filling in of skeleton poems. It will not do for those whose greatest ambition is the winning of prizes, although some ingenius woman might possibly manage to connect something of the kind with this, but we shall leave her to do it for herself. To make ready for the game have several sets of slips of paper, enough to go around two or three times, each set having upon it a skeleton something like the following:

—— —— Boy,	—— —— Round
—— —— School,	—— —— Looks;
—— —— Joy,	—— —— Found,
—— —— Rule.	—— —— Crook.
—— —— Pin,	—— —— Chair,
—— —— Ends;	—— —— Where,
—— —— Thin,	—— —— "Rare!"
—— —— Bonds.	—— —— "Swear!"
—— —— Quick,	—— —— Growl
—— —— Stick,	—— —— Scowl,
—— —— Thick,	—— —— Howl!
—— —— Lick.	—— —— Yowl!

Number the stanzas, and give one to each guest to fill in just as he pleases. When all are finished call for them to be read in the order they come for each poem. The result will be most laughable. Of course, in a thing of this kind there are no prizes, but it simply calls into exercise the inventive powers, and, as only a few are natural poets, some funny combinations will appear.

Another amusement somewhat similar is taking some essay or description, cutting the lines apart and pasting every other one separately upon slips of paper. Number them and pass them around, letting the guest take up the thought in his line as well as he can, and carry it forward another line. Then combine the whole and compare it with the original.

FANCY WORK AND HOUSE DECORATION.

LETTER-HOLDER.—To make a letter holder similar to the accompanying illustration, you will require four pieces of card-board, six by ten inches, with a sufficient quantity of plush, silk, satin or cretonne for covering, and some less costly material for lining. Two yards of ribbon, three-fourths of an inch wide, will also be needed. Cover the two pieces of card-board intended for the outside, say with old-gold plush, upon which some artistic design has been painted, or embroidered. Cover the other two pieces with plain old-gold satin. Lay the two first-covered boards on the table, and pin across them two inches from top and bottom, the two pieces of ribbon, as in the illustration. Next whip the linings to the outside pieces, being careful to whip the spaces through which the ribbons will pass. This will allow them to slip easily in and out, thus permitting you to enlarge the capacity of your holder as occasion requires. This holder may be used for a variety of purposes.

CATCHALL.—A dainty catchall may be made of celluloid. Cut a piece twelve inches square, and line with pale blue surah, or satin. Turn three corners together in envelope shape, and lace them with pale blue cord through holes pierced for the purpose. In each corner paint a spray of forget-me-nots. Fasten a loop of blue ribbon in fourth corner for suspending the catchall. The colors of the decorations may be varied to suit the taste of the maker, but delicate colors are prettiest with the celluloid. A lining of pink surah, with a pink clover head painted in each corner, is very effective.

ANOTHER WAY TO MAKE A RUG.—Take carpet rags, sew together exactly as you would for a carpet, and crochet them with a hook whittled out of wood and made very smooth. The mat can be made round or oblong. They are very pretty, if made of bright rugs.—GLADYS.

A PRETTY RURAL DECORATION.—Take a small butter bowl, sand paper, and paint the inside with common house paint; white is best. Then paint a winter scene in it. Saw a hole in a board, the size of the bowl; make the board the shape that you want the frame; cover with garnet plush, and put in the bowl. Put on the lower left hand corner of frame a bunch of roses made of putty, and gild them with gold paint.

UMBRELLA HOLDER.—Take a sewer tile, paint it with house paint of any color desired; put a spray of roses, buds and leaves, of putty, on one side; paint them with gold paint, or in the natural colors; then paint a band of gold color around the top, and you will have a pretty and useful ornament.—MRS. C. S. ELY.

KNITTING AND CROCHETING.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and sl, slip and bind; t t o, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; ch ss, close chain stitch; d ch st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c st st, crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o sh st, open shell stitch; tr, treble; sh c, short crochet.

PERFECTION LEAF.—Cast on 28 stitches. Seam every other row—1st row—k 3—n—k 2—o—k 1—o—n—o—n—o—k 5—2—o—4—n—k 2—o—k 1—o—n—o—n—k 1. 3d row—k 2—n—k 2—o—k 3—o—n—o—c—k 2—n—k 2—o—k 3—o—n—o—c—k 1. 5th row—k 1—n—k 2—o—k 5—o—n—o—n—k 2—n—k 2—o—k 5—o—n—o—n—k 1. 7th row—k 6—n—k 2—o—n—o—k 1—o—k 2—n—k 2—n—k 1—o—n—o—n—k 2—o—n—o—n. 9th row—k 5—n—k 2—o—n—o—n—k 3—o—k 2—n—k 2—n—k 2—o—n—o—n. 11th row—k 4—n—k 2—o—n—o—n—k 5—o—k 1—n—n—k 2—o—n—o—n—k 1—MRS. D. D. W.

PALM LEAF.—Very pretty. Seam every other row. Cast on 10 stitches—1st row—k 2—o—n—o—n—o—tto—n—o—k 2 tog. 3d row—k 2—o—n—o—k 1—o—n—k 4—o—k 2 tog. 5th row—k 2—n—k 2—o—n—k 3—o—n—o—k 2 tog. 7th row—k 2—n—k 2—n—k 3—o—n—o—k 2 tog. 9th row—k 2—o—n—k 4—n—k 2 tog.—MRS. D. D. W.

KNEE CAP FOR STOCKING.—Use 5 needles. Begin stocking and knit about 5 inches; then have the stitches divided evenly on 4 needles—k to upper side of stocking, (the side you have not been narrowing) you will then be at end of second needle—k 2 sts off third needle—turn stocking—sl first stitch—p 1—p 2 off the next needle—turn stocking—k 2 sts back, also 4 sts on next needle—turn stocking and p back as before, seaming 2 more sts than the first time. Keep on knitting that way, until back at the same stitch again. The knee cap will then be completed.—MINNIE A. R.

CROCHET LACE.—Make a chain of 31 stitches. 1st row—1 d c in 4 h st of ch, counting from hook—2 ch—1 d c in same st—2 ch—1 d c in same st—miss 2 st—1 d c in next st—2 ch—1 d c in same st—2 ch—1 d c in same st—repeat from * to * 8 times, with always 3 d c separated by 2 ch in each 4 ch used. 2d row—5 ch—fasten with s c under 1st 2 ch—5 ch 4—s c under 2 2 ch—repeat from * to * 19 times. 3d row—3 ch—1 d c in 2d space—2 ch—1 d c in same space—miss 1 space—1 d c in next space—2 ch—1 d c in same space—2 ch—1 d c in same space—repeat from * to * 8 times, with always 3 d c separated by 2 ch in each space used. 4th row—same as 2d row. 5th row—same as 3d row, and each alternate row the same throughout the lace. That is—4th like 2d—5th like 3d—6th like 4th, etc.; 7th like 3d—7th like 5th, etc. Please try, and report.

Will some one send decorations for some wide lace?—MRS. S. G. REYES, New York.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WELCOME SPRING.

See the yellow daffodils,
Dainty fronds appearing,
A golden shade and ready made,
Best bib and tucker wearing,
And back the frogs go cracket-er-rack,
Where gray willow, furry back,
Grow, down in the clearing.

There's dainty little violets,
Their feline dresses wearing,
In cosy nooks with mossy locks,
In sweet contentment faring,
And the birds are singing sweet, oh, sweet!
Bold cockrobin with necktie neat,
Picking crumbs so daring.

Welcome, welcome, tardy spring,
The birds a welcome singing,
And everything a welcome bring,
The woods with welcome ringing.
Then list to flowers and birds so sweet,
Come forth in fresh array to greet,
The joy that spring is bringing.
—HATTIE L. INMAN, Washington.

ABOUT BABIES.—Be good to the poor little innocent things. Don't starve them; don't pinch them; don't freeze nor smother them; don't tire them to death. These are some of the reasons why God has mercy on so many little treasures and takes them away from this cold unsympathetic world to His own perfect home where there is no more sorrow, sickness or death. I have had a little experience and I wish to give other thoughtless or ignorant young mothers the benefit of it.

First, if you possibly can do so, nourish it from the breast. Keep your own body and mind as healthy and pure as possible, for your thoughts, words and actions will reflect upon your child, and the condition of your health will effect it somewhat. I raised one child on the bottle, (a little puny thing,) I tried condensed milk, cow's milk and prepared food, but the milk or food should always be of the same kind and prepared the same way if possible.

Dress them comfortably. Tight clothes are injurious as well as uncomfortable. Make their clothes large; allow plenty of room for shrinkage and growth. Sleeves and some other portions of garments may be tucked when made, and let out when necessary. Keep them warm, dress them in flannels all the year round, unless you live in a hot country, when most flannels may be discarded during the hottest weather. Make their flannel skirts long enough to cover the feet and double up a foot or two, but not long enough to be a burden. Make the napkins large and do not double them four times and pin as tight as possible, for it surely hurts as well as injures the helpless little things to be treated so. Pin smoothly, but not tightly, the three corners together with a large safety pin; then, if baby is over three months old, pin closely around each little thigh with a small flat safety pin. Keep the room warm where baby is and of an even temperature as nearly as possible. Don't try to toughen it by exposure, for you will be more likely to kill than to toughen it. Rather build up a strong healthy constitution by careful treatment.

Keep them clean, but do not bathe them every morning, regardless of the condition of their health, the weather or any thing else. They don't need to be stripped and bathed very often, if your house is open, or for any reason bathing is not advisable, undress a small part at a time and, sitting near a fire, sponge off with a soft warm, wet cloth. Don't always put on a whole set of clean fresh clothes regardless of weather.

Always nurse them when hungry, dry them when wet, give them a drink of water occasionally and avoid having them in a draught of air if they are sick. Humor them as much as you can, but don't hold them all the time and don't let them sleep on your arm, it's tiresome to both mother and child, you. While babies need good care, nourishment and love, they also need rest, and one that is taken up only when necessary, and allowed to rest or play when nothing ails it, will most likely be far, healthy and good natured.—A "LOVER OF CHILDREN."

HINTS FOR AMATEUR GARDENERS.—As it will soon be time to plant seeds, I will tell the sisters my method. I want early plants, about March 1st and 10th, I fill a box 12x18 inches, six inches deep; with good soil, heated to kill all insects, and sifted. I plant in rows, writing the names on the box. Cover with a paper or a cloth till they begin to come up. I try to transplant just after a rain, and in the evening.

For out of door gardens, I plant about May 10th, cover with carpet or other cloth, and never let them get dry. I use pieces of shingles painted white, for names, on out-of door plants. My lily bed looks like a young grave yard in winter. I buy 5 cents worth of dry white lead, and always have linseed oil, thus I can mix up just the amount of paint wanted at one time. My favorite Annual is Verbena, next Phlox. I like annuals, such as Poppy, Portulacca, Ageratum, Adonis, Calliopsis and Candy Tuft, because they always self sow, and young plants ready to be transplanted by the time the weather is fit. But for the bu- ones, I would say plant perennials, they require so little care after once established, and continue to bloom year after year. My bed of Linum, 2x3, is a perfect sheet of bloom every morning in its season. Blue flowers are a rare, but this is a lovely blue. It is perennial, and will self sow enough for all your friends. I think my Digitalis calls forth as much admiration as any perennial I have. The blossoms are thimble shaped, one-half inch long or more; pure white, or a beautiful pink. They last a month, and I judge one seedpod has 100 seeds in it. Chelone and Ipomeas are recital vines, and are very conspicuous, growing three feet or more in height. Of all the true flowers I think Delphinium is the finest. Then what a variety of flowers we now have in the Aquilegia, and so double. I cover my perennials in winter with a little grass or leaves.

I plant annuals (usually Phlox and Verbena) over my Tulip and Crocus bulbs; the foliage is ripened up before I set annuals between the bulbs. I plant Poppies among my Gladiolus.—CORA JEWELL.

SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT PAINTING.—I am an amateur artist and I often get puzzled, especially about brushes. Some advise the use of small ones and others say large ones. I would like to ask "Winnie Whittaker" about them. For general flower painting are sable or bristle brushes used? If sable, should they be red or Russia sable, and what numbers? And if bristle are used, shall I get the English or French, Brights or Lamineer, and the numbers? Please be explicit on this subject. Also in painting back grounds for flowers (those back grounds that are shaded from light in one corner to very dark in opposite lower corner and have a mottled look), what size and kind of brush are to be used, long or short, straight down or slanting? I am very glad you have offered to write on that subject.—ADA MAY.

MORE ABOUT BABIES.—I would like to add a few items about babies that I have learned from experience. Never give a baby cathartic medicine. It is liable to throw them into spasms, especially during teething. Give instead a teaspoonful of olive oil. I never use the nursing bottles; we got instead, ½ pt. brandy bottles at a drug store and used rubber nipples to fit the bottles. I cleaned them with soap and a little lye or washing soda in the water, then let them lay in clear water until used, rinsing with clear water after using each time. I always fed my baby at regular hours.—LENORE.

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS.

RIBBON BEDS are very popular now. They are mostly made of green-house plants, such as the geranium and coleus, but very pretty beds can be made of some annuals. The Phlox Dummondii is very hardy, and so may be sown early. It comes into bloom when only two or three inches high, and continues in bloom until very late in the fall; and there is such a variety of colors to select from that very handsome beds may be made from this pretty annual. A bed can be arranged in this manner: First make a round bed, divide into five parts. For the center use scarlet. Around that sow two rows of white six inches apart, and one foot from the scarlet, then sow two rows of pink in the same way, next two rows of violet queen, and edge the whole with the new variety called Chamoise Rose. This is a very dwarf variety, and is a shade of pink which I have never seen in any other flower.

Another pretty ribbon bed can be made of Phlox, using only the varieties with light or dark eyes, arranged in this way: First center of carmine with white eye, then white with dark eye, then purple with white eye, and edge of rose white eye. Another of striped varieties may be made in this way: Center of crimson striped, next violet striped, then rose striped, next white striped, and for last row or edge Chamoise Rose or white.—FRANCES B., Michigan.

"Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy." What is more beautiful than a quiet Sabbath day? We rest from the weariness and toil of six days' labor and enjoy the holiest in studying God's word and attending public worship in the sanctuary. The Commandments are not ours to disobey, only under penalty.

If we have no higher motive, it is good for the rest in body and head and heart. We feel refreshed on Monday morning to commence our daily duties; our work goes on without being burdensome, and if we have observed the day as we should it is pleasure.—CAROLINE.

This is my way of raising seedling pansies, and I have found it very successful after failing to secure thrifty plants in the house: Select a partially shaded spot for the bed, make the soil very rich; rake the bed smooth and sow the seed evenly over it. Scatter sifted soil carefully over it until the seeds are covered, spray well with water from sprinkling can, and cover the bed with a blanket or carpet, or cloth, fastened securely at the corners, so as to be undisturbed by winds. Water the bed as often as the surface appears dry, and as soon as the plants appear remove the blanket. Transplant, when the plants have six leaves, to beds shaded from South and West sunlight, as pansies positively must be grown in the shade. Sow the seed as soon as the ground can be worked. Pansy seed will survive quite severe chills. —MISS JENNIE MOON, Ogle county, Ills.

I have used up part of my life learning how to do better, if I could live it over again; but I realize the fact that most girls are not going to take much advice, however good or reasonable it may be. They know to manage their own case, and they have to see their own mistakes by the light of past experience.

So I don't give any advice, but I say: girls, keep this rule, and it will save you many a painful memory. When mother trusts you with your "company," never allow a word or an act which you would hesitate to repeat, if it were necessary, to her, and (I put this in for good measure) don't be afraid of telling! Believe me, she hasn't forgotten when she was young.

To the boys: remember to treat the girls, "silly" or otherwise, as you would wish any other fellow to treat your sister.

To them both, I commend the closing words of Robert J. Burdette's "Lay Sermon:" "Dearly beloved, don't try to be heroes, then. Don't aim to be wingless saints. Don't aspire to the distinction of martyrhood. Try to be good, every day, honest Christian men and women, and see if you have not your hands full.—LINA.

INQUIRIES.

Will some one tell me what will prevent hair from turning gray?—M. A.

In weaving basket pattern for rag carpet, will "Nell" say which color of the warp is woven in with the rags?—MRS. JENNIE WARNER.

I have some samples of knit edging and a few of crochet ones. I would like to make a tidy with them, but do not know how. Will some one tell me?—MRS. D. W.

Will some lady who has used both bicycle and tricycle, give her experience? I want a bicycle, but am not very strong.—MRS. S. S. KING.

Will some one send me some religious papers or books for a Sunday school?—L. E. LANG, Sugar Bush, Outagomi Co., Wis.

Will some one tell me how to remove moles from the face?—NANCY.

When I wear kid gloves my hands perspire so that I spoil them. Can any one give a remedy?—CORA SANDS.

If a gentleman should meet a lady acquaintance several times in an afternoon, should he speak and act as though it was the first time; or, what should he do in such a case?

I am troubled with feet that perspire, which is very disagreeable, how am I to remedy the trouble?—"BACHELOR."

A slight bow, from the gentleman, is all that is necessary after the first meeting.—ED.

Will some one tell me what colors to use in painting my sitting-room, dining-room, bed-room and chambers? The wood work is plain and has been painted white; also, state what color to paint the window sashes.—IGNORANCE.

Will some one inform me how to make wide crochet rick rack for pillow shams?—ALICE S. NICKOLS.

Will some one send directions for pineapple lace and insertions?—B. SMITH.

Will some one give directions for coloring a dark drab on cotton, for carpet-bags, that won't fade? Give directions of how much dye to use for any number of pounds. Also how to polish silver so as not to give it the appearance of being scratched?—J. C.

Will some one tell me of a sure cure for daudruff.—GLADYS

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

H. B. R. On the right side of the plate, at dinner, is laid the tablespoon for the soup, and so many knives as there are courses, the forks to correspond being placed on the left. The napkin is neatly folded, and in it is enclosed a Vienna roll, or a small slice of bread. Never fold a napkin in a fanciful device, as it savors too much of the *table d'hote*. It is the correct way to place menus with the handle up, but if the shape or size of the spoon-holder renders this inconvenient, the handles may be placed downward. In removing a spoon so placed, great care should be taken to avoid touching the bowl of the spoon.—[ED.

If the one who wished to get rid of bedbugs will use plenty of strong alum water in every place where they are found, she will find it an easy matter to exterminate them.—A READER.

If "Minnie will wash her flannel in soap suds and while wet hang it in a box or barrel, over a pan of wood coals, and then throw on them a little sulphur, she will be satisfied with the result. Cover the barrel tight and let it stand awhile; if not bleached enough, try it again.—MRS. H. V. COCHRANE.

E. J. C. I recommend carbolic acid. Use a feather and put in every place possible for a bug to get.—A NEW SUBSCRIBER.

O. C. Marcellus. You should send your question to some paper devoted to the subject.—[ED.

Mrs. Merril. I think there are mites in the cage of your canary. Let the bird out. Invert the cage and saturate well with kerosene; wipe lightly and cold over the stove until well warmed, then wipe dry and hang in the air for an hour; scald the perches well, and if you have used plenty of kerosene the mites will be destroyed. The hook on which the cage hangs and the wall near the hook, must also be treated to a good bath of oil. After all is cleansed, put some sand on the paper in the bottom of the cage and give the bird a piece of fat salt pork rolled in cayenne pepper, and a cracker to pick, with plenty of water and seed, but no green food. The piece of pork should be at least an inch square, as a small piece dries too soon.

To the lovers of good butter who have so much trouble with the butter sticking to the bowl, I would say, don't allow your bowl to be washed with soap suds; use nothing but clean warm water to wash it in, scald well, wipe and put away; when you begin churning scald the bowl, then fill with cold water until the butter is ready.—JENNIE.

If "New Subscriber" will, each night and morning, while dressing the child, firmly rub across these little legs straight, and not hurry it, but stand, and in the pleasure of seeing her child with straight limbs. I have tried this simple remedy with perfect success.—MRS. W. R. BLINN.

"A Widow." Take your family Bible to a book binder's. You will be surprised to see how nicely they can make it look, and not destroy or change any part of it.—MRS. M. F. W.

If "Mrs. M. M. L." will dust her fruit with flour, and stir in last, it will not sink to the bottom.—MARIGOLD.

RECIPES.

POTATO SALAD.—Slice cold boiled or baked potatoes very thin, and mix with 2 large onions chopped fine; salt and pepper. Pour over this a dressing made of ½ pt. of vinegar; 2 well beaten eggs, and a small lump of butter. Pour the eggs into vinegar while boiling, and let it thicken. The same dressing will do for "slaw," by adding a small bit of sugar.—MRS. H. C. R.

WASHINGTON PIE.—1 egg well beaten, ⅝ cupful of sugar; beat again, add 1½ cupfuls of new milk, 1¾ cupfuls of flour, 1 quite heaping teaspoonful of cream tartar; 1 even teaspoonful of soda; flavor to suit taste. Bake in two deep tins or three shallow ones, and spread the layers with any mixture preferred. This cake requires no shortening, and is very nice.—"BACHELOR COOK."

COFFEE CAKE.—1 cupful New Orleans molasses, 1 cupful of sugar, ½ cupful of shortening, 1 cupful of cold coffee, 1 cupful of raisins, 1 tablespoonful soda, 1 teaspoonful cinnamon and cloves each; flour to make a good stiff batter.—OLD MAID.

TO PREVENT FRUIT FROM SINKING IN CAKE. Wash the fruit, let it dry thoroughly, then flour it. When ready to bake, mix about ⅝ of fruit in the dough, and put about half of this in baking pan. Then add the remainder of the fruit to the dough, and complete the size of the cake.—MRS. A. P. LOCK.

SWEET BRINE.—Salt, 7 lbs.; saltpetre, 1 oz.; sugar, 2 lbs.; soft water, 8 gals. Mix and bring to a boil, carefully skimming. Apply when cold to 100 pounds of meat. If it is designed to keep meat more than 6 or 8 weeks, better use three times the amount of salt.

BEDBUG EXTERMINATOR.—Camphor gum, 30 grs.; corrosive sublimate, 30 grs.; turpentine, 4 drs.; alcohol, 12 drs. Label "poison." Apply with a feather or hair brush to the haunts of the pests.

LIQUID BLUEING.—Prussian blue, 1 oz.; oxalic acid, ½ oz.; soft water, 1 qt.

BUTTER BRINE.—Rock salt, 6 lbs.; white sugar, 1 lb.; saltpetre, 1 oz.; water, 3 gals. Mix, boil, skim, cool, strain through coarse cloth. Wrap each roll of butter with a cloth. Brine should cover the butter at least four inches.

EXPECTORANT FOR HARD COLDS.—Oil anise, 15 drops; alcohol, half an ounce. Mix these in and add tincture ipecac, 1 oz.; tincture digitalis, 1 oz.; tincture balsam tolu, 2 ozs.; tincture blood root, 2 ozs.; laudanum, ½ oz.; mix. Take half teaspoonful on sugar from three to five times daily.

COFFEE CAKES.—3 cupfuls of flour; 1 cupful of butter; 1 cupful of coffee; 1 cupful of molasses; 1 cupful of sugar; 1 cupful raisins, and a teaspoonful of soda.—MRS. KATE RINEHART.

Mr. Lo Would Agree to This.

General Sheridan is credited with saying that the only good Indian was a dead Indian. It seems to us this saying could be amplified by adding that "the only good Indian agent is a dead Indian agent."—Pittsburg Chronicle.

● HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE
Beware of Imitations.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

MATTOON, ILL.	
Roy Neel	Harold Kner
Ada Cory	Emer Fisher
Elmer Dunigan	Myrtle McCormick
	Willie Shawn.

Names this week, 7. Total, 29,210.

The above embraces all names received up to April 11.

WISHING.

BY LAURA GARLAND CARR.

"I wish I had an eagle's sight!"
Said Johnnie, with a radiant look,
As all sat round the evening light,
Each occupied with work or book—
"Then on far Eiffel tower I'd stand
And view the wonders on each hand."

"But you've no ship to cross the sea?"
Cried little May, in quick reply,
"And, if you had—how sick you'd be!
I'd take the eagle's wings and fly—
Then on and on, o'er hill and plain,
Right round the world and home again."

"Pshaw! Eyes and wings!" sneered sturdy Dan—
"I'd choose, if I a choice could make,
A lion's strength." "And I," said Nan,
"The lily's breath and beauty take."
Then sweet-toothed Nell piped, "For my part,
Give me, from bees, the honey art,"

Wishing ran wild. We all were gay,
Mother sat sewing, weary faced;
Small time had she for books or play,
So many stitches must be placed;
Old pussy stretched, lazy and fat,
Close at her feet upon the mat.

"Mother!" called Dan, "'Tis your turn now!
What would you take had you the chance?"
She pushed her glasses up her brow
And gave us all a kindly glance—
"Well, if I could, and 'twas no crime,
I'd take," she said, "the cat's spare time."
—[Boston Transcript.

HANSON'S YALLAR GAL.

MRS. A. M. PAYNE.

HE was a young mulatto girl "hired out" to Mrs. John Hanson, as maid of all work—but maid of no work would have been a far more suitable term. She was full of fun from morning till night. She worked as if it was a grand joke, and she stopped to "catch a breath" fifty times a day, and her irate mistress found her floating ships in the river, racing with Bruno, the big dog, picking dandelions for little Susy, or on the long bench in the back porch half asleep.

Somebody was perpetually scolding her, but she did not care. Her name was Pine Cone, and she answered to everything.

"Cone, have you left that tea-kettle on the stove without water? Didn't I tell you not to do it again?"

"Sure Mrs. Hanson, I done forgot, I'se awful sorry. Look thar! Is that Joe by the fence? It is for sure, I'll go catch him. He hain't been down here in a week."

"But Cone, fill the kettle first."

"O, Mrs. Hanson, wait just a minute."

Off she goes, and it is half an hour before she is back.

"You're a bad girl, Cone," says Mrs. Hanson.

"Couldn't help it no how, misses, Joe said his father done broke his leg, and I wanted to hear about it. He promised me a little speckled hen for Su-sy. Here Susy, I'm coming out to tell you something." Away she goes again, and is with difficulty brought back and put to work.

She is set to scrub the kitchen floor and left to herself, as Mrs. Hanson hears no sound of scrubbing in the kitchen she comes back again, finds pail, soap and brush, while from the open door there is a vision of Cone at the top of the cherry tree, picking off fruit for Susy, who waits below.

No one could be angry with her for five minutes, but her merry laugh was music, and even almost forgave her golden blunders, when she so gladly sprung to the slightest service, and never complained of the great variety of tasks set for her to do.

Hanson's yallar gal was known throughout the little river town—a place which stood on the banks of the Ohio river, boasted of two streets, Front and Second, running parallel with the river, and then went up hill until it ended in farms on a mountain slope, in the land one like a plain on both sides of the river. Doonville boasted a store, a school and two churches, and it was the county seat. Hanson's lived in "the front," that is close to the river bank, and "Hanson's Yallar Gal" was known to all the boatmen who passed up and down the river.

It had been raining in the way peculiar to this part of the country, for three days, driving across the open fields in sheets of water, and the down pour was unceasing. The opposite bank of the river was lost to view, and no human being who could stay in doors ventured out. The chickens were shut up in the hen house, and the cows were in the barn.

Cone wandered about the house with little Susy at her side, seeking amusement, and even she found it dull. At length she held Susy up to the front window, and told her to count the logs floating by on the foaming river. She watched and helped Susy to count them for a few minutes, and then with a sudden exclamation put her down, and rushed off into the next room.

"Lawd, Mrs. Hanson, the river done rise fearful," she exclaimed, "you'se must look after them chickens, or they'll all go."

Mrs. Hanson started up and hurried to the window. There was no doubt about it, the river was rising steadily, rapidly, and remorselessly as it always does, creeping on and on, carrying destruction in its path.

The house stood high, it had been "under water" before, as what house on the front street of the river towns has not, but Mr. Hanson was away, and all were not so fortunate as to situation. The little shanties close down by the river brink would soon float, at the rate the river was rising. Already the waves were lapping against the chicken house, and the hens set up a peculiar s artled cry.

This was too much for Pine Cone, off came her shoes and stockings, and before Mrs. Hanson could stop her she was out in the rain and trying to reach the door of the shed. She succeeded with some difficulty, and the frightened fowls rushed out, and some of them fluttered directly into the water instead of away from it, and were floated down with the rushing, whirling waters. As Cone glanced up the storm lost its quietness and cowardice. She rushed back into the house and bore up stairs. "Mrs. Hanson," she said in a tone of great excitement, "take Susy and go to the attic. The lower town's afloat, and I'm going fishing. Where's the clothes line?"

"Cone! Cone! stay here," shouted Mrs. Hanson, but her calls were all in vain. Not daring to wait, she snatched her child and left the room as Mrs. Hanson hears no sound of scrubbing in the kitchen she comes back again, finds pail, soap and brush, while from the open door there is a vision of Cone at the top of the cherry tree, picking off fruit for Susy, who waits below.

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Talmage's Sermon.

THE DAILY WALK IN LIFE.

Men Must Carry the True Christian Spirit Into Their Methods of Business and Deal Justly With Their Customers in All Respects.

BROOKLYN, April 13.—At the service in the Academy of Music this morning Dr. Talmage, after reading appropriate passages of Scripture, gave out the hymn:

"So let our lips and lives express
The holy Gospel we profess."

He announced as his text Proverbs xx. 14: "It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer; but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth." Following is his sermon:

Palaces are not such prisons as the world imagines. If you think that the only time kings and queens come forth from the royal gates is in procession and gorgeously attended, you are mistaken. Incognito, by day or by night, and clothed in citizens' apparel or the dress of a working woman, they come out and see the world as it is. In no other way could King Solomon, the author of the text, have known everything that was going on. From my text I am sure he must, in disguise, some day have walked into a store of ready-made clothing, in Jerusalem, and stood near the counter and overheard a conversation between a buyer and a seller.

There are no higher styles of men in all the world than those now at the head of merchandise in Brooklyn and New York and in the other great cities of this continent. Their casual promise is as good as a bond with piles of collaterals. Their reputation for integrity is as well established as that of Petrarch residing in the family of Cardinal Colonna, and when there was great disturbance in the family the cardinal called all his people together, and put them under oath to tell the truth, except Petrarch, for when he came up to swear, the cardinal put away his book and said, "As to you, Petrarch, your word is sufficient." Never since the world stood have there been so many merchants whose transactions can stand the test of the Ten Commandments. Such bargain-makers are all the more to be honored because they have withstood a year after year, temptations which have flung many so far and flung them so hard they can never recover themselves. While all the positions in life have powerful besetments to evil, there are specific forms of allurements which are peculiar to each occupation and profession, and it will be useful to speak of the peculiar temptations of businessmen.

First, as in the scene of the text, businessmen are often tempted to sacrifice plain truth, the seller by exaggerating the value of goods, and the buyer by depreciating them. We cannot but admire an expert salesman. See how he first induces the customer into a mood favorable to the proper consideration of the value of the goods. He shows himself to be an honest and frank salesman. How carefully the lights are arranged till the cloth just right up in the daylight. Beginning with goods of medium quality, he gradually advances toward those of more thorough make, and of more attractive pattern. How he watches the mood and whims of his customer! With what perfect calmness he takes the order, and bows the purchaser from his presence, even if you see by having made up his mind that he has bought the goods at a price which will allow him a living margin when he again sells them. The goods were worth what the salesman said they were, and were sold at a price which will not make it necessary for the house to fail every ten years in order to fix up affairs.

But with what burning indignation we think of the iniquitous stratagems by which goods are sometimes disposed of. A glance at the morning papers shows the arrival at one of our hotels of a young merchant from one of the inland cities. He is a comparative stranger in the great city, and, of course, he must be shown around, and it will be the duty of some of our enterprising houses to escort him. He is a large purchaser and has plenty of time and money, and it will be worth while to secure. The evening is spent at a place of doubtful amusement. Then they go back to the hotel. Having just come to town, they must, of course, drink. A friend from the same mercantile establishment drops in, and usage and generosity suggest that they must drink. Business prospects are talked over, and the stranger is warned against certain shipped merchants in establishments that are about to fail, and for such kindness and magnanimity of caution against the dishonesty of other business houses, of course it is expected they will—and so they do—take a drink. Other merchants lodging in adjoining rooms find it hard to sleep for the clatter of decanters, and the coarse carousals of those "nail fellows well met" waxes louder. But they sit not all night at the wine cup. They must see the sights of the city. They must see it with cheeks flushed and eyes bloodshot. The outer gates of hell open to let in the victims. The wings of lost souls flit among the lights, and the steps of the carousers sound with the resulting thunders of the damned. Farewell to all the sanctities of home! Could mother, sister, father, slumbering in the inland home, in some vision of that night catch a glimpse of the ruin wrought they would send up a cry that would rattle the roots and bite the tongue till the blood spurted, shrieking out

"God Save Him!"

What, suppose you, will come upon such business establishments? and there are hundreds of them in the cities. They may boast of fabulous sales, and they may have an unprecedented run of buyers, and the name of the house may be a terror to all rivals, and from the thrifty root there may spring up branch houses in other cities, and all the partners of the firm may move into their mansions and drive their full-blooded span, and the families may sweep the street with the most elegant apparel that human art ever wove, or earthly magnificence ever achieved. But a curse is gathering somewhere for these men, and if it does not seize hold of the pillars and in one wild ruin bring down the temple of commercial glory, it will break up their peace, and they will tremble with sickness and bloat with dissipation, and, pushed to the precipice of this life, they will try to hold back, and cry for help, but no help will come; and they will clutch their gold to take it along with them, but it will be snatched from their grasp, and a voice will sound through their soul, "Not a farthing," thou beggared spirit!" And the "judgment will come and they will stand against before it, and all the business iniquities of a lifetime will gather around them saying: "Do you remember this?" and, "Do you remember that?" And clerks that they compelled to dishonesty, and runners and draymen and bookkeepers who saw behind the scenes will bear testimony to their nefarious deeds, and some virtuous soul that once stood aghast at the splendor and power of these business men will say, "Amen! this is all that is left of that great firm that occupied a block with their merchandise and overshadowed the city with their influence, and made righteousness and truth and purity fall under the galling fire of avarice and crime."

Again, business men are often tempted to make the habits and customs of other traders their law of rectitude. There are commercial usages which will not bear the test of the Bible of this day. Yet men in business are apt to do as their neighbors do. If the majority of the traders in any locality are lax in principle, the commercial code in that community will be spurious and dishonest. It is a hard thing to stand close by the law of right when your next-door neighbor by slickness of dealing is enabled to sell goods at a cheaper rate and enjoy your customers. Of course you who promptly meet all your business engagements, paying when you promise to pay, will find it hard to compete with that merchant who is hopelessly in debt to the importer for the goods purchased, and to the landlord whose store he occupies, and to the clerks who serve him.

There are many unscrupulous precedents in the world of traffic which ought never to become the rule for honest men. Their wrong does not make your right. Sin never becomes virtue by being multiplied and admitted at brokers' board or merchants' exchange. Because others smuggle a few things in passenger trunks, because others take usury when men are in tight places, because others deal in fancy stocks, because others palm off worthless endorsements, because others do nothing but blow bubbles, is not, therefore, be overcome of temptation. Hollow pretension and fictitious credit, and commercial gambling may awhile prosper, but the day of reckoning cometh, and in addition to the horror and condemnation of outraged communities, the curse of God will come, blow after blow. God's will forever and forever is the only standard of right and wrong, and

Not Commercial Ethics.

Young business man, avoid the first business dishonor, and you will avoid all the rest. The captain of a vessel was walking near the mouth of a river when the tide was low, and there was a long stout anchor chain, into one of the great links of which his foot slipped, and it began to swell and he could not withdraw it. The tide began to rise. The chain could not be loosened nor filed off in time, and a surgeon was called to amputate the limb, but before the work could be done the tide rolled over the victim, and his life was gone. And I have to tell you, young man, that just one wrong into which you slip may be a link of a long chain of circumstances from which you cannot be extricated by any ingenuity of your own, or any help from others, and the tides will roll over you as they have over many. When Pompey, the warrior, wanted to take possession of a city, and they would not open the gates, he persuaded them to admit a sick soldier. But the sick soldier after a while got well and strong, and he threw open the gates and let the devastating army come in. One wrong admitted into the soul may gain in strength until, after a while, it flings open all the avenues of the immortal nature, and the surrender is complete.

Again, business men are sometimes tempted to throw off personal responsibility upon the monied institution to which they belong. Directors in banks and railroad and insurance companies sometimes shirk personal responsibility underneath the action of the corporation. And how often, when some banking house or financial institution explodes through fraud, respectable men in the board of directors say, "Why, I thought all was going on in an honest way, and I am utterly confounded with this misdemeanor!" The banks and the fire and life and marine insurance companies will not stand up for judgment in the last day, but those who in them acted righteously will receive, each for himself a reward, and those who acted the part of neglect or trickery will, each for himself receive a condemnation. Unlawful dividends are not clean before God because there are those associated with you who grab just as big a plie as you do. He who countenances the dishonesty of the firm, or of the corporation, or of the association, takes upon himself all the moral liabilities. If the financial institution steal, he steals. If they go into wild speculations, he himself is a gambler. If they needlessly embarrass a creditor, he himself is guilty of cruelty. If they swindle the uninitiated, he himself is a defrauder. No financial institution ever had a money vault strong enough, or credit plenty enough, or dividends large enough, or policy acute enough to hide the individual sins of its members. The old adage, that corporations have no souls, is misleading. Every corporation has as many souls as it has members.

Again, many business men have been tempted to postpone their enjoyments and duties to a future season of entire leisure. What a sedative the Christian religion would be to all our business men if, instead of postponing its uses to old age or death, they would take it into the store or factory or worldly engagements now! It is folly to go amid the uncertainties of business life with no God to help.

Many, although now comparatively straitened in worldly circumstances, have a goodly establishment in the future planned out. They have in imagination built about twenty years ahead a house in the country not difficult of access from the great town, for they will often have business or old accounts to settle, and investments to look after. The house is large enough to accommodate all their friends. The halls are wide and hung with pictures of hunting scenes and a branch of antlers, and are comfortable with chairs that can be rolled out on the veranda when the weather is inviting, or set out under some of the oaks that stand sentinel about the house, and rustling in the cool breeze, and songful with the robins. There is just land enough to keep them interested, and crops of almost fabulous richness springing up unbidden

House bill appropriating $ 5,000 to supply the deficiency occasioned by the defalcation in the office of the late sergeant-at-arms of the House was reported from the committee on appropriations without amendment and passed.

The Senate then resumed consideration of the Montana contested election case and Mr. Turpie concluded his argument in favor of the Democratic claimants. Messrs. Clark and Mantle.

Dr. Turpie, also a member of the committee on privileges and elections, presented an argument on the same side of the question. He said that the canvassing board at Helena had no right to throw out the abstract of returns of Silver Bow precinct 34. To try might have thrown out the abstract for the whole county of Silver Bow, but not a part of it.

They had not dared to throw out the abstract for the whole county, because that would have defeated the Republican candidate for Congress; and that would have been a shell inside of the easements of corruption. Further on he spoke of the canvassing board as a triple coil of adders composed of a "Chief Justice from Jerusalem, a secretary from Sodom and a governor from Gomorrah," and he wound up with a scathing denunciation of all concerned.

In the course of a discussion as to the time for coming to a vote it was stated by Mr. Morgan that Democratic Senators while not prepared to fix any limit to the debate were ready to vote upon the question without further debate.

The Montana election case was laid aside and the Chinese census enumeration bill taken up. Without action on the bill the Senate adjourned.

In the House, on motion of Mr. Wade, of Missouri, Senate amendments were concurred in to the House bill to admit free of duty articles imported for the St. Louis exposition in 1890, which may be limited from the republic of Mexico and other American republics and the Dominion of Canada.

The House then went into committee of the whole on the navy appropriation bill. Pending roll call on the committee rose and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Among the petitions presented in the Senate and referred was one from the Galveston (Texas) Board of Trade against the proposed duty on lead ore, stating that such a duty would break up the smelting works at that place, throw several hundred workmen out of employment and seriously affect the trade with Mexico.

The Montana election case was taken up, and Mr. Call addressed the Senate in opposition to the report of the majority of the committee declaring the two Republican claimants, Messrs. Sanders and Power, entitled upon the merits of the case to seats in the Senate from Montana.

Mr. Hoar spoke in support of the majority report.

Mr. Gray replied to Mr. Hoar and then Mr. Teller addressed the Senate. After debate the Senate, without action, adjourned.

Mr. Kerr, of Iowa, said that he represented a district in which there resided many Quakers who had sent him petition after petition, requesting him to vote against this appropriation for an increase in the navy. They knew that this preparation for warfare was in the direction of war with foreign countries.

After further debate Mr. Holman, of Indiana, moved to strike out the paragraph providing for the three battle ships but leaving in the provision for an armed cruiser. Agreed to—98 to 70.

Mr. Peters, of Kansas, then withdrew his motion to strike out the entire clause.

The bill was then favorably reported to the House, but no final action was taken and the House adjourned.

The House went into committee of the whole on the naval appropriation bill.

Mr. Peters, of Kansas, moved to strike out the entire clause for the increase of the navy. He believed that the United States had no need of battle ships and possessed all the cruisers that it required.

Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, said that he did not know much about the navy and he wished to make a few remarks about the bill. He had watched naval progress, but feared that those ships proposed to be built would become obsolete before completion. He believed in a small, compact and powerful navy, including the best type of vessels, but the Navy department had reported that the Maine and Texas, now building, would never be duplicated.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The consideration of the Montana election case was resumed in the Senate, and, as no senator sought the floor, the yeas and nays were ordered upon the best on the first resolution, and the vote was about being taken when Mr. Evarts rose and suggested that if no senator on the other side desired to speak he would proceed to make the closing argument in support of the committee's report.

Mr. Morgan said that he did not care to address the Senate, but after hearing the very able and distinguished lawyer from New York he might feel himself required to say something, either in approval or disapproval; and so he did not wish to be understood as being embraced within any agreement that the senator from New York should now close the debate in the case.

After further debate Mr. Hoar gave notice that on Monday he should ask the Senate to remain in session until the Montana case was disposed of. He would not call it up to-morrow, as there might be an implied understanding that Saturday sessions were to be devoted to the calendar.

Mr. Hawley, from the select committee on the quadro-centennial celebration, reported back with amendments the House bill for the World's Fair at Chicago, and said that if anything was to be done in the matter it should be done at once. He thought it would not lead to any serious debate and hoped to have it taken up and passed on Monday.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned till to-morrow.

In the House, Mr. Lacy, of Iowa, called up the contested election case of Wadhill vs. Wise from the third district of Virginia.

Mr. Enloe, of Tennessee, raised the question of consideration.

The House decided—yeas 124, nays 113—to consider the election case, and Mr. Lacy took the floor with the argument in favor of the claims of the contestant.

O'Ferrall, of Virginia, supported the resolution of the minority of the committee on elections, which declares the seat vacant.

After considerable debate the House without disposing of the matter the House took a recess, the evening session to be for the consideration of private pension bills.

The House at its evening session did no business, but the few members present resolved themselves into a debating society, the subjects being "pensions" and "war claims."

Mr. Enloe, of Tennessee, gave notice that until the House would allow private bills to be considered on Friday he would allow no pension bills to be passed on Friday nights. He then made a long speech in favor of the southern war claims.

Mr. Boothman, of Ohio, followed with an exhaustive speech in reference to pensions. Both gentlemen were constantly interrupted and the House was frequently in an uproar, laughter and excitement alternating. On several occasions rather personal and unparliamentary language was indulged in, but the general good humor of the House prevailed and anger and indignation was laughed down.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Mr. Dawes presented a petition to the Senate of the Boston Board of Trade asking for the passage of the New York Chamber of Commerce, "remonstrating against the proposed legislation for driving the Chinese out of the country."

The calendar was taken up under the five minute rule, and the following bills (among others) were passed:

The Senate bill to increase the rate of pensions for certain cases of deafness to $40 a month.

The House bill to remove the political disabilities of D. C. Stith, a citizen of Texas.

The Senate bill to increase the efficiency and reduce the expense of the signal corps of the army. The bill transfers to the Department of Agriculture the Weather Bureau, leaving the signal corps of the army to remain in the War Department.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

Immediately after the reading of the journal the House resumed consideration of the contested election case of Waddill against Wise.

Mr. Hanger, of Wisconsin, and Mr. Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, spoke in favor of the contestants, and then Mr. Wise, of Virginia, took the floor in his own behalf.

After further discussion the vote was taken on the minority substitute resolution declaring the seat vacant, and it was defeated—yeas 119, nays 133.

The majority resolution declaring Waddill entitled to the seat was adopted—yeas 134, nays 120—and that gentleman appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office.

Public business was then suspended, and the House proceeded to pay fitting tributes to the memory of the late James Laird, a representative from Nebraska. After eulogistic addresses by Messrs. Laws, Conger, Cutchion, Marsh, Tarsney, Yoder and Connell the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—In the Senate the death of Hon. Samuel J. Randall was announced, and the following committee appointed to attend the funeral: Senators Quay, Allison, Dawes, Voorhees and Eustis.

In the House the following resolutions were adopted and the following funeral committee appointed: Messrs. O'Neil, Carlisle, Harmer, Holman, Cannon, Forney, Springer, Reilly and McKinley. The funeral will be Thursday.

STEELE FOUND GUILTY.

He Will be Reprimanded and Confined to His Post.

It is announced at the War department that the court-marshal which tried Lieut. Steele at Chicago for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman in striking Private Dell P. Wild, found him guilty and sentenced him to be reprimanded and to be confined to the limits of his post for a period of three months. The proceedings and findings of the court have been approved by Maj. Gen. Schofield, as commander of the division of the Missouri, and he will issue an order this afternoon publicly reprimanding Steele. This will be the final disposition of the case, as it is not one that calls for any action on the part of the President or secretary of War.

First Lieut. J. V. S. Paddock, Twelfth Cavalry, was recently tried by court-martial at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., on a charge of having duplicated his pay accounts. The record of the proceedings and findings in the case has been acted upon by the reviewing officers of the War department, and the case has been submitted to the President for his action. It is assumed from this action that the court found the officer guilty of the charge and sentenced him to dismissal from the service, as otherwise the President would not be called upon to act.

Employees of the Rockaway (L. I.) Hunt club, have been fined and jailed for docking ponies' tails.

RANDALL IS DEAD.

He Could Not Longer Survive the Terrible Disease.

At a few minutes past 5 o'clock Sunday morning, April 13, Samuel J. Randall, surrounded by his family, passed peacefully from life to death. Mr. Randall came to Washington in November last, but was not able to take his seat in the House, and has been hanging between life and death for many weeks.

The funeral has been fixed for Thursday morning. The arrangements will be in charge of a Congressional committee. Mrs. Randall prefers that the services shall be in the church of which Mr. Randall was a member, and not in the House of

HON. SAMUEL J. RANDALL.

Representatives. This church is the Metropolitan Presbyterian church, Dr. Chester pastor, at the corner of Fourth and B streets, S. E. After the ceremonies the funeral party will take a special train over the Pennsylvania road to Philadelphia, where the interment will take place in the Randall family vaults in Laurel Hill cemetery. Brief services will be held there. The train is not expected to go into the city, but will stop at the Ridge avenue church.

[Samuel Jackson Randall was born in Philadelphia on October 10, 1828. He came into public life at a very early age as a Democrat and has never since been retired, even temporarily. He was the son of a lawyer, and his grandfather, on his mother's side, was a revolutionary general. He was educated in an academy in Philadelphia and entered mercantile pursuits. His first entry into politics was as a member of the Common council of Philadelphia, in which body he served four terms. He was then elected to the State senate for one term. At the opening of the civil war Mr. Randall was a member of the First City troop of Philadelphia, and was with the troop during its term of service from May, 1861, till August. For gallant conduct at the battle of Falling Waters, where Stonewall Jackson was driven back for the first and only time, Randall, then quartermaster, was promoted to the position of commissary, returning to Philadelphia the troop was called out in 1863 by the invasion of Pennsylvania by Lee's army, Mr. Randall was in active service until Lee retreated from Pennsylvania. Mr. Randall was first elected to Congress in 1862. He commenced his Congressional life in December, 1863, in the Thirty-eighth Congress in which Hon. Jas. G. Blaine served his first term), only two years after his old friend but political opponent of 30 years' standing—the late William D. Kelley—had commenced a career in Congress that lasted nearly 30 years. Mr. Randall was returned at every succeeding election, and at the time of his death had served 26 years in Congress, or through thirteen Congresses. He was elected for a fourteenth term, though he took the oath and qualified as a member, he was not able, because of failing health, to take his seat in the present Congress. Mr. Randall was a candidate for speaker of the Forty-fourth Congress in 1875, but was defeated by the Hon. Michael C. Kerr, by whom he was appointed chairman of the committee on Appropriations. At the second session of the same Congress Mr. Randall was chosen speaker, Mr. Kerr having died during the recess. Mr. Randall was reelected speaker in the Forty-fifth Congress by the Democrats in 1877.]

ACTION BY CONGRESS.

Touching Prayer by the Chaplain of the Senate.

The chaplain of the senate, Rev. J. G. Butler, in his opening prayer, on April 14, made the following reference to Mr. Randall's death: "We bless Thee for the long and useful life of Thy servant, now departed, whose departure we mourn. We bless Thee for his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; for his patient suffering, and that his end has been peace. We commend to Thee those who now gather in the dark shadow of the home circle. Widow, judge not; be thou, anu father of the fatherless, comfort them in their sorrow; lead them, keep them and give unto them Thy peace."

The Senate then provided for a committee to attend Mr. Randall's funeral and adjourned.

In the House.

An air of sadness pervaded the House when the speaker's gavel called the body to order. Draped in black and ornamented with a floral design, the seat so long occupied by Mr. Randall recalled to members the fact that their old colleague had passed away forever.

The crayon portrait of the ex-speaker, hung in the lobby, was also tastefully draped with the emblems of mourning. In his prayer the chaplain said:

We bless Thee, Almighty God, that in the gloom which enshrouds us, there is the clear shining of Thy love; that in the midst of sadness about the mouth of an opening tomb, a voice clothed with Almighty power speaks "I am the resurrection and the life."

Bowing with submission to Thy will, we surrender to Thy fatherhood our beloved friend and brother. His name is inscribed among the heroes, patriots and statesmen of the country on the imperishable tablets of its history, and his memory—the memory of his deeds and character is enshrined in the hearts of his country for whose honor and welfare he so long and faithfully wrought.

O, Thou who didst shed the precious tear drop of pity and sympathy at Bethany's grave, wilt Thou not now console the widow in the home of his been one long joyous act of self-devotion, and the children bereaved by this irreparable loss. Bring home to them the comfort and the consolation that no noble life is really extinguished by death, but passing behind the veil which sense makes, enters upon a higher and grander being in the glorious light of Thy presence.

Bring them and us to that higher life, we pray through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mr. O'Neill, of Pennsylvania, said:

I rise to announce the death of my colleague, the Hon. Samuel J. Randall, who died yesterday morning in his own house, at 5 o'clock. This announcement is exceedingly painful to me. He and I have been intimate, familiar friends.

He started in life at 21 years of age, a full man in every respect, intellectually and politically, and as one who had the element of supreme leadership, which, in his later years, was complete in the estimation of his state and the country.

About three months ago it came to my lot to announce the death of another colleague of many years' service—Judge Kelley—and it is a shock to my feelings, which I can hardly repress, when to-day I announce the death of that dear colleague.

On the first Monday of December, 1863, we stood before the speaker's desk and were sworn into office as members of the 38th Congress. Politically we have differed; but personally there has been a depth of friendship in all those years which I cannot to-day express to this House.

We have lost a distinguished man. To-day the city of Philadelphia grieves over his death, as it has seldom been called to grieve over the death of a public man; and the whole state of Pennsylvania mourns because, Agreat man, a statesman, a pure man in life, with strong personal attachments. I noticed yesterday in this city that every flag on every building was at half-mast, and I see by the papers that the same was true of Philadelphia. Every kind of sadness was expressed there at his own home. I cannot say more to-day, but a few weeks from this we will have an opportunity to pass eulogies upon his life.

Mr. O'Neill then offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the House has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. Samuel J. Randall, late a representative of the state of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a committee of nine members of the House, with such members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral of the deceased.

Resolved, That the House do now adjourn.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the speaker appointed the following committee: Messrs. O'Neill, Carlisle, Harmer, Holman, Cannon, Forney, Springer, Reilly and McKinley. The House then adjourned.

Senators Quay, Allison, Dawes, Voorhees and Eustis were appointed the committee on the part of the Senate to attend the funeral of Mr. Randall.

The Silver Bill.

The Republican caucus committees of Senate and House, appointed to determine the silver problem, had a meeting Friday evening. The session was entirely conversational and argumentative in character, and, although there were divers views presented, the indications are that an agreement will be arrived at. In order to obtain further light upon the subject the joint committee has asked Secretary Windom to appear before it.

In Nagle's Favor.

The United States Supreme court, in an opinion by Justice Miller, on April 14, affirmed the judgment of the California Circuit court in the case of Cunningham, sheriff, plaintiff in error, vs. David Nagle. This case grows out of the shooting of Judge Terry in a railway station at Lathrop, Cal., last August by Nagle in order to protect Justice Field, whom Terry had assaulted. The decision is in Nagle's favor.

WRITE POSTAL CARDS!

Read the Pension article, headed "Once More," on the 5th page of this issue, and write postal cards as directed therein, *at once;* get all your friends who favor service pensions to do so also, and do it as quickly as you can. Keep them pouring in on Congress for ten days or two weeks!

MICHIGAN LAND.

A Lawyer from L'Anse Makes His Mark in Washington.

One of the brightest, most concise arguments ever made before any tribunal was made before the secretary of the Interior on Tuesday. The attorney in the case was a young man named Rush Culver, and he comes from the little town of L'Anse, on the upper peninsula of Michigan. Quite a story attaches to the cause which brought him here. He represents a community which is very much worked up over the land grant question.

It seems that in 1856 the United States granted to the state of Michigan, in trust, 400,000 acres of land which was to be given the Portage Lake and Lake Superior Ship Canal Railway company, provided that corporation constructed a canal across the peninsula, which puts up into Superior and is known as Keweenaw Point. That canal would have been seventy miles long had it been built; it is only two miles in length, yet the company has been given the right to the 400,000 acres by the state and instead of taking the land nearest the line of the canal, it grabbed the most valuable timber lands in the region for miles around. That's grievance No. 1. The other grievance as a much larger one, and to this the people of L'Anse have directed most attention. It seems that Congress granted ten sections per mile to the Marquette, Houghton & Ontonagon Railroad company, which promised to build a line from Marquette to Ontonagon, a distance of about 100 miles.

In pursuance of that act the company constructed 45¾ miles of road, and received therefor the stipulated ten sections per mile. Now the company wants to buy the remaining 147,000 acres of land which would have been theirs had they completed the road, and they cite an act of Congress which they say permits them to do so.

In this case, as in the one previously referred to, the state let go its hold too soon for the good of any one but the corporation. That was all the company wanted, and it sold, or pretended to sell, these 147,000 acres of uncultivated and unpurchased land to an English syndicate, known as the Michigan Land and Iron company, of which Lord Brassey is the president and of whose stock he holds the major portion. Here is where the alien land law is supposed to come in.

If the Interior department decides that the company is right, then the syndicate will oust more than one thousand actual settlers, most of whom have comfortable homes. Interested sympathetically are 6,000 other neighboring settlers, and the affair has assumed political proportions. They say they will vote to down any party that practically ejects those thousand homesteaders and their families.

THE SILVER BILL.

The House Caucus Still Laboring With the Question.

The members of the House caucus silver committee had a two-hours' session on April 14. There was a general disposition to reach some kind of an agreement, and a spirit of concession characterized the entire proceedings. As a result, when a recess was taken the indications were that the members had at last found common ground and that they will be ready very shortly to agree upon a formal proposition acceptable to themselves. The basis of the agreement will be the Windom bill as it emerged from the House committee on coinage with the addition of a few provisions intended to meet the views of the silver men. It will probably provide for unlimited purchases of bullion produced in the United States at the market price not to exceed a dollar for 371¼ grains, and when that price is reached there is to be free coinage.

The afternoon session of the committee lasted over two hours, and there was a very full discussion of the entire situation. Secretary Windom was present for a part of the time, but contented himself with a reiteration of his well-known views on the subject. He would not abate his opposition to the plan to make the treasury notes issued in purchase of silver redeemable in anything else than silver bullion, but having carefully discussed this matter, the committee decided to incorporate in the bill a provision allowing their redemption in bullion or coin at the option of the purchaser.

The Senate committee after a session of an hour and a half reached a conclusion. Three propositions were agreed to:

1. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall buy 4,500,000 ounces of silver bullion monthly and issue notes in payment for the same, the notes to be redeemable in bullion or lawful money.

2. That the national banks shall be allowed to issue notes to full par value of bonds deposited to secure their redemption, which would add 10 per cent. to the volume of national bank currency.

3. That the hundred millions retained in the treasury for the redemption of treasury notes be put into circulation.

THE WORLD'S FAIR BILL.

It Has Made its Appearance in the Senate—New Section Proposed.

Just before the Senate adjourned Friday, Senator Hawley reported the World's Fair bill, with the amendments agreed upon by the committee. The first one was to section 5, relating to the acceptance of the site by the National commission, with the provision that the site and buildings shall be deemed adequate for the purposes of the exhibition, and the further proviso, "that said commission shall be satisfied that the said corporation has an actual bona-fide and actual subscription to its capital stock of at least $5,000,000." The amendment inserts after the word "stock" the words, "which shall secure the payment." The following was proposed as a new section:

"Section 8. The President is hereby empowered and directed to hold a naval review in New York harbor, in April, 1893, and to extend to foreign nations an invitation to send ships of war to join the United States navy in rendezvous at Hampton Roads, and proceed thence to said review.

"The President is further empowered and directed to make arrangements for the unveiling of a statue of Christopher Columbus at Washington with appropriate ceremonies and civil and military parade under his general direction, after said naval review, and no less than five days before the opening of said exposition, and to invite the attendance thereat of foreign representatives."

The Civil Service Cases.

In the case of the Old Dominion Republican league, against the officers of which action has been instituted in the courts of this district for violations of the United States Civil Service law, it has been determined to waive all further proceedings and to admit a statement of facts on the part of the defendant, C. A. Newton, president of the league, in order that the same may be passed upon in a higher court and a final decision had in the Supreme court of the United States.

Newton, who is not a government officer, and who is charged with a violation of the civil service law by soliciting contributions of government employes for campaign purposes, will test the right under the civil service law to solicit such contributions by one not in employment of the government, and also test the question whether the sending of a letter by such a one to a government employe and delivered on his desk, is a solicitation forbidden by the twelfth section of the civil service law, and if it is a solicitation, whether that law is consistent with the constitution of the United States.

Counterfeit Money.

The chief of the secret service is informed of the arrest by that service, at Denver, Col., of George Ammons and Wm. Dorrell, for passing counterfeit $10 national bank notes of Richmond, Ind., and were held for the United States grand jury. These counterfeits were made by Miles Ogle, who was arrested in 1884 when he surrendered the plates for these notes, together with plates of the Third National Bank of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Muncie and Lafayette, Indiana, National banks, and a $2 and $20 silver certificate.

Postal Receipts.

The following statement shows the per cent of increase in gross receipts at some of the principal postoffices for the quarter ended March 31, 1890: Chicago, 9 8; St. Louis, 15 40; Cincinnati, 6 0; Pittsburg, 15 8; Cleveland, 15 8; Detroit, 12 3; Kansas City, 11 8; Milwaukee, 14 3; Minneapolis, 8 5; St. Paul, 5 2; Louisville, 7 5; Indianapolis, 10 4; Toledo, 15 6.

PAN-AMERICANS.

The Report of the Committee on Banking Adopted.

The pan-American conference has adopted the report of the committee on Banking and the supplementary report of the committee on Customs Regulations, recommending the establishment of a Central Union bureau of information and statistics concerning customs.

The report of the committee on Extradition was taken up. The recommendation of the committee is that the Spanish-American governments shall adopt the report on the project of international penal law drafted by the South American Congress of Montevidio in 1888, as being the best model to be followed by them in framing the extradition treaties which they may make with each other, while at the same time the Spanish-American governments are recommended to conclude with the United States special treaties of extradition, founded on other principles, more suited to the peculiar circumstances and habits of legislation of the latter country and more in harmony with the other treaties thus far concluded between the United States and many other nations, both of Europe and America.

American Silk.

Each delegate to the pan-American conference was the recipient on April 11 of a beautiful silk American flag, the gift of the Woman's Silk Culture association of the United States. A short presentation address was made Mrs. John Lucas, of Philadelphia, in which she explained that the silk from which the flags were made was grown and spun by American women. The flags were presented as a testimonial of friendship from the people of the United States to those of her sister republics. Delegates Jose Cuamano, of Ecuador, and Jeromano Zelaya, of Honduras, made appropriate responses.

GENERAL NEWS.

DENOUNCED STANLEY.

A German Lecturer Says His Purpose Was a Base One.

The London *Times* correspondent at Berlin says he notes a growing anti-Stanley feeling there. Herr Reichard, while lecturing recently, declared that Stanley while on his search for Livingstone learned from Arabs at Zanzibar Livingstone's location, but concealed his discovery in order to enhance his fame.

The lecturer further declared that Stanley had induced Emin to leave Wadelai, because he himself had failed in commercial land grabbing and speculation, utterly unredeemed by human purpose or a feeling for Emin. The lecturer read a letter from Count Stolfare, whose son, the Zanzibar agent of the German East Africa Co., had informed him that Stanley's proposition to Emin was to collect forces and go and establish himself on the stations in Kavirondo, while Stanley would bring two steamers from Mombanza and join him in an expedition to conquer Uganda and Unyoro and create them provinces of an equatorial dominion, of which Emin, with a princely salary, should be ruler, in the service of the British East Africa company. Railways would be built from the coast through the dominion, connecting with the sources of the Nile. This scheme, the writer said, would prove the grave of all the commercial hopes of the Germans.

Henry M. Stanley.

Henry M. Stanley reached Cannes on April 12. He was received upon his arrival by Miss Wilson, president of the committee of the Emin relief committee. Mr. Stanley subsequently called upon the Prince of Wales.

A dispatch to the Brussels *Independence Belge* from Cannes says that Mr. Stanley has declined King Leopold's invitation to attend the anti-slave congress now sitting in Brussels on the ground that the condition of his health will not permit him to do so.

The same dispatch also says that Dr. Parke, who accompanied Mr. Stanley on his expedition to the interior of Africa, and who is now with him at Cannes, declares that Emin Pasha is suffering from an incurable cataract and that before a year elapses he will be blind.

WANT NO POLYGAMY.

Canada will Raise the Penalty from Two to Five Years.

The Mormon question was ventilated in the Canadian Parliament on April 10.

The House took up Sir John Thompson's bill to amend the criminal law and polygamy as included in the list of offenses. Hon. Edward Blake said the Mormon settlers in the Canadian northwest form a dangerous element, and urged that their abominable practices should be suppressed.

From information given him he learned that the Mormons who flocked from Utah to Canada, left their wives at home and brought young girls with them for companions.

Minister of the Interior Dewdney also spoke. He said he had personally assured the Mormons that they would never be permitted to practice polygamy in Canada. At that time the Mormons gave him satisfactory assurances, and more recently denied that they were evading the laws.

Sir John McDonald said Canada would never allow the northwest to be the scene of polygamous practices. The clause relating to polygamy was amended, raising the penalty from two to five years' imprisonment.

EMPEROR WILLIAM.

Rev. Dr. Fulton Arrays Him Against the Pope in Strong Language.

At the People's tabernacle at Toronto, Ont., on Sunday, the Rev. Dr. Fulton delivered an address on "William II. of Germany—His Opportunities and His Dangers." A resolution was adopted setting forth that the Jesuits, feeling confident of the surrender of the imperilled liberties of Europe to the Pope of Rome, have expressed their determination to return to the land from which they were banished in consequence of their implacable hostility to the government of which the late Emperor William I was the head, and that the present emperor's rejection of the overtures of Leo XIII. in the spring of 1887, his loyalty to God and his determination to champion the people's interest, lead to the hope that he has been the chosen of God to strike Romanism its deadly blow and to build up the nation of which he is the honored head.

Sensational Scenes in an Illinois Church at a Meeting.

The scandal in the First Baptist church, at Joliet, Ill., involving the pastor, Rev. Dr. Whitman, who came there from Charlottetown, P. E. I., reached a climax on April 12, at the annual meeting of the church. The election of officers resulted in the choice of a board of trustees and a clerk favorable to the pastor by a small majority.

A resolution was offered sustaining the pastor and denouncing his traducers. This precipitated the most unseemly wrangle ever witnessed in a church. Brothers fought brothers in sharp, sarcastic language, and the shrill voice of the sisters was also heard, while charges of forgery and lying were freely bandied.

The pastor said he would not be sent into banishment by a conspiracy, and amid a great tumult the vote was taken on the resolution which was carried by a vote of 97 to 79. The result was hailed with the most tumultuous applause. Then D. M. Stiles and wife, the first accusers of Dr. Whitman were expelled. The opposition will build a new church.

A Boy's Ghastly Discovery at the Foot of a Precipice.

On Saturday afternoon a lad named Harry Preston was setting squirrel traps at the base of a 100 foot precipice on the bank of the Niagara river nearly opposite the English church on the Canadian side, when he came across the skeleton of a man lying on the rocks.

The flesh had entirely left the bones, which were white and dry. The clothing was still in a fair state of preservation. The general supposition is that the skeleton is that of Robert Thompson, who resided at Niagara Falls, and who has been missing for the past three years. He was supposed to have fallen over the bank.

Providence Election.

The Providence, R. I., election for senator and eight representatives resulted in the election of all the Democratic ticket except one representative, by majorities ranging from 184 to 532. This insures the election of Gov. Davis and the Democratic general officers in the grand committee.

The complexion of the incoming legislature shows 57 Democrats and 50 Republicans, which gives the Democrats a working majority, with two to spare.

The Australian ballot system worked like clock work, very few voters requiring instructions in preparing their ballots, while everybody had time enough to vote.

PROHIBITION STANDS

In Iowa—The License Movement Quietly Killed.

There seems to be little probability that the present legislature will disturb Iowa's prohibition law. The license measures that have been advocated are practically dead. The Senate spent April 10 considering two license bills—one by Schmidt, in accord with the Democratic platform; the other by Lawrence, a Republican. Both bills were lost on engrossment. All license bills which have come before the Senate have now either been defeated or indefinitely postponed.

In the House the license bill is on the calendar, with a recommendation from the committee of the Whole for its indefinite postponement, and as the House stands 51 for prohibition and 49 for license, there is little hope there for the bill.

The Schmidt bill provided for the calling of an election to decide for or against license; elections not to be held oftener than every two years. If it is decided for license, the power of issuing shall be vested in the District court, and all applications must be published for at least two weeks previous to issuance. Remonstrances will be considered by the court. The minimum license fee was fixed at $500, all of which shall go to the county, and the corporations may impose and collect additional license.

A $5,000 bond must be given by the person getting license, for the proper observation of the law, and penalties for evasions are provided.

The Lawrence bill provides in a similar manner for elections, and if license carries, the Governor shall appoint three excise commissioners for the locality, who shall have power to issue or revoke licenses. The minimum fee is $500, all of which goes to the city treasury. The person receiving license must file a bond for the observance of the law. Restrictions are made that no liquor should be sold to minors and habitual drunkards; all saloons to open on public streets, to be closed by 11 p. m. on all days; all day long on election days and Sundays; no games to be permitted, no screens, no music. Permits to manufacture shall be granted in counties deciding for license. Penalties are prescribed.

CUBAN ANNEXATION.

The Feeling in Cuba Growing in Favor of the Plan.

A correspondent of the New York *Herald*, writing from Havana under date of April 5, says: The question of the annexation of Cuba to the United States is daily growing more serious, and the government commences to be alarmed at the propagation that more or less openly is being carried on, with results that will soon be known. The campaign that has been opened by several leading papers is courageously sustained in remarkable editorials, that generally attract attention, one having gone so far as to assert, some weeks ago, that the Spanish government, through their disgraceful and ruinous administration, did more than anybody else to throw Cuba into the arms of the United States.

The new budget just voted by the cortes tell the people here that they have nothing to expect in their favor from Spain, whose political leaders seem to compete as to who is to increase the most the heavy burden of charges and all classes of taxes which the Cuban merchant, manufacturer, planter and land tenant is to pay.

Though the Cuban chambers of commerce have protested in due time, and in the strongest terms against the increased taxes decreed, no attention whatever was paid in Madrid to this protest and the annexationists have taken advantage of the disaffection created by the last measures decreed to forward the preparation of their doctrine and increase the number of their adherents.

The organization of an annexationist party is being persistently spoken of though it is difficult to designate as yet those who have taken the initiative in its formation. With the exception of some newspaper editors, who have boldly assumed the responsibility of their acts, the main part of the people, Liberals as well as Conservatives, though longing in the bottom of their heart for a change that would improve the general situation of Cuba and save her in hard times from ruin and destruction, do not dare, as yet, to pronounce themselves too openly, and prudently observe the signs of the times before adopting a political line of conduct that would bind them forever.

A fact beyond all doubt is that there are a large number of annexationists in Cuba and some in the United States. The question is now to know whether any of the members of the government at Washington would be willing to favor the movement just initiated in Cuba.

Spotted Fever in Kentucky.

Spotted fever has broken out in Union county, Kentucky, and the wildest excitement prevails. It made its appearance at Henshaw a few days ago. Since that time over a score of children have been stricken with the same disease fatally. The disease is identical in all its symptoms with that which last summer carried off 250 victims in Webster, an adjoining county.

In that epidemic neither sex nor age were spared. Only children have so far been attacked this year. The disease runs its course inside of 36 hours. Its approach is heralded by intense pain at the base of the brain. A burning fever speedily follows. The tongue becomes swollen and hard, unconsciousness ensues and death follows.

After death the body becomes spotted with yellow blotches, the limbs swell and the whole body turns black.

People are fleeing with all haste from the country about Henshaw. Everything is sacrificed in order to get away. The schools are closed and the few physicians are about exhausted from overwork. This disease does not appear to be infectious, and so far the families in which more than one case happened, are the exception. But everybody believes that those who remain will be stricken.

A Guatemala Banker Gets Away With His Jewelry.

Wealthy Miguel Coloma, a banker from Guatemala, who was recently arrested at New York on the charge of smuggling several thousand dollars' worth of watches and jewelry, was released by United States Commissioner Shields. Mr. Coloma arrived in that city on the French liner, and had in his possession many presents in the shape of jewelry for the members of his household and his servants. The various pieces were engraved with the names of the persons for whom they were intended. Something about the banker's appearance attracted the attention of the sharp-eyed custom inspectors and he was searched. These articles of jewelry were found concealed in his boots and about his person. The Guatemalan consul interested himself in the case. After several hearings the case was concluded on April 11 as stated.

The Supposed Benders on Their Way Back to Michigan.

Mrs. Griffith and her daughter, of Niles Mich., alleged to be the noted old Mrs. Bender and Kate Bender, were released at Oswego, Kas., on April 11, on habeas corpus proceedings brought by their attorney. They introduced the affidavits of the matron of the Michigan penal institute, showing that Mrs. Griffith was confined there for manslaughter at the time the Benders were committed. Affidavits were also introduced proving an alibi for the daughter. County Attorney Morrison, representing the state, introduced the testimony of a Mr. Stewart, who swore positively that Mrs. Griffith and her daughter were the Benders. At the conclusion of the case Judge Collins ordered the release of the prisoners. The county commissioners purchased railway tickets for Mrs. Griffith and her daughter, and they will be sent back to Niles to-morrow.

A Heavy Decline in the Flour Output—Condition of Trade.

The Minneapolis *Northwestern Miller* of April 11 says: There was quite a heavy decline in the flour output last week. Only twelve mills ran, and their aggregate production was 111,640 barrels—averaging 18,607 barrels daily—against 137,450 barrels the week before, and 88,150 barrels for the corresponding time in 1889. Several of the mills are down pending the completion of work on races running underneath them, and the date on which they will resume work is somewhat uncertain.

A New Oil Field.

Petroleum has been discovered on the farm of Mrs. Chauncey Duane at Richville, St. Lawrence county, New York. Lately it has appeared in increasing abundance on springs and streams there. The geological formation is the same as that of the Pennsylvania region, and every indication points to oil in paying quantities. Citizens of Richville are excited, and will organize a stock company to sink a well.

CAPRIVI TALKS

At the Opening of the Prussian Diet.

The Prussian diet was opened on April 15 by Chancellor Von Caprivi. In his speech, he said: "It is not my intention to state the government's programme, but having hitherto held aloof from political life, I now wish to speak a few words in order to approach you personally." [Cheers.]

GEN. VON CAPRIVI.

The chancellor then referred to the important position which had been held by Prince Bismarck, and expressed the hope that in the future the empire would continue secure.

The edifice of the state, he said, was cemented firmly enough to resist wind and weather. Moreover, the noble personality of the young monarch had already manifested itself at home and abroad.

He affirmed his undying belief in the future of Prussia, and the German empire resting on Prussia's shoulders. Both, for a long time to come, would be a historical necessity. He thought he could anticipate the future full of hope.

The emperor had said that his course would remain the same. The inauguration of a new era was, therefore, not to be expected, although a more harmonious solidity would be manifest among the members of the diet.

In conclusion, the chancellor said he would allow the widest scope to practical criticism, and would adopt what was good, wherever found. He would co-operate with all persons having at heart the interests of Prussia, and aiming to foster the monarchistic feeling in Prussia and the national feeling throughout the empire. (Cheers.)

EIGHT HOUR MOVE.

Minnesota to Form a State Organization to Push It.

The Minnesota eight-hour league met at St. Paul, Minn., on April 13, 400 delegates, representing every large city in the state, being present. A motion was made for a meeting of representatives from all labor organizations of the state to be held the second Sunday in May for the formation of a state federation of labor.

The time, however, was considered too short and a substitute was adopted directing the executive board to confer with all central labor organizations as to the proper date for and the feasibility of such a union. The executive council of the Farmers' alliance will also be communicated with and a report will be made at Minneapolis May 11.

Chicago Carpenters.

At a meeting of the Chicago Master Carpenters on April 11 they adopted a resolution that as individuals they can hire carpenters upon whatever terms they can agree upon. The Master Carpenters, as a body, however, still fail to recognize the strikers' union. It is not yet known whether the strikers will go to work with the demanded recognition of their union by the Master Carpenters' association.

DR. A. B. LEONARD.

He Talks on the Question of Religion and Politics.

Dr. A. B. Leonard, who once ran on the Prohibition ticket for governor of Ohio, addressed the missionary meeting of the Northern New York conference at Oswego, New York, on April 11, and his remarks aroused considerable enthusiasm. He denounced the attempts of the Roman Catholic church to control the politics of its members, and said that no member of that church could ever fill the Presidential chair as long as it was known that the mouth nearest his ear would be that of the man on the Tiber. He vigorously attacked Mormonism and echoed the exclusion of Chinamen from this country.

Lead and Oil Trust.

The consolidation agreement of the National Lead and Oil company was filed at Albany, N. Y., on April 10. It sets forth that the capital stock of $1,000,000 is distributed among the six companies composing the consolidation as follows: Jewett White Lead Co., of Port Richmond, Staten Island, $250,000; the Brooklyn White Lead Co., $200,000; the Bradley White Lead company, of Brooklyn, $180,000; Lenox Smelting Co., of Brooklyn, $50,000; Ulster Lead Co., of Saugerties, N. Y., $150,000, and the Union White Lead Manufacturing Co., of Brooklyn